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JAN.
NO. 23

APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE



CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

THE FAMED DAREDEVILS BRAVE
THE FANTASTIC MENACE OF...

***"The ISLAND
in the SKY!"***

THAT CLOUD WAS
ONLY A CAMOUFLAGE
FOR ALIENS FROM
SPACE--AND THEY'RE
DRAWING OUR PLANE
RIGHT TOWARD THEM!



Test Your Talent!

Contest Prize: \$495.00 Scholarship in Commercial Art

Draw your choice of any one of these heads—pirate, basset or girl. Make your drawing any size except like a tracing. Use pencil. Everyone who submits a drawing gets a professional estimate of his talent without charge. Winner receives the complete course in commercial art taught by Art Instruction Schools. This is the world's largest home study art school—an accredited member of the National Home Study Council.

Try for this free art course! Art Instruction has taught more professional artists than any other school. Former students are active today as advertising artists, illustrators, cartoonists and painters. Many earn upwards from \$150 a week. Some earn \$25,000 a year and even more.

Students are taught, individually, by artists with commercial art experience. Art textbooks, illustrated in color, and step-by-step lesson assignments cover the entire course. If you like to draw, develop your talent!

Purpose of this contest is to uncover talent with promise.

Entries for December 1961 contest due by December 31.

None returned. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible.

Winner will be notified. Start your drawing today.

Use 1 coupon—then pass this page on to a friend

3. **ART INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS**

Studio 10501 • 500 South 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.
Please enter my drawing in your draw-a-head contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

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Occupation _____ AGE _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ Zone _____
County _____ State _____

2. **ART INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS**

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1. **ART INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS**

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(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____
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Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ Zone _____
County _____ State _____

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

SOMEWHERE IN THE LABYRINTH OF OF THAT WEIRD VALLEY WAS A DEADLY BLACK BOX, THE PRODUCT OF AN UNKNOWN MECHANICAL GENIUS LONG DEAD! AND THE CHALLENGERS HAD TO REACH THAT FANTASTIC WEAPON BEFORE THEIR CRIMINAL OPPONENT, DESPITE SOME OF THE MOST TERRIBLE DANGERS THEY'D EVER FACE, FOR...

DEATH GUARDED THE DOOM BOX



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THE TRAIL OF A DANGEROUS Foe BRINGS THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN TO THE MUSEUM OF MIDDLE EASTERN ANTIQUITIES...

THE MAN YOU POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AS THE THIEF WHO RAIDED THIS MUSEUM IS BURT LANGDON, A VICIOUS CRIMINAL WE'VE FOUGHT BEFORE!

BUT WHY WOULD A THIEF WANT THE HORN OF HERIX?



THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HORN! HERIX WAS AN ANCIENT KINGDOM OF THE MIDDLE EAST THAT LASTED ONLY BRIEFLY, BUT IT GAVE BIRTH TO MANY LEGENDS!

YES, I SEEM TO REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT THEM! BUT WHY WOULD LANGDON WANT THAT HORN? AND WHERE IS HE HIDING?



I THINK THIS MAY ANSWER YOUR LAST QUESTION, PROF-- A BELT-MAKER'S AWL! LANGDON MUST HAVE TRIED TO PRY OPEN THE CASE WITH IT FIRST! AND I NOTICED THERE'S AN OLD, ABANDONED BELT FACTORY NOT FAR FROM HERE!

IT'S WORTH A TRY, ACE! LET'S GO!



BUT, WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT THE BELT FACTORY...

NOT A SIGN OF LANGDON OR THE HORN! WE'RE TOO LATE!

MAYBE NOT! LANGDON WAS SCRIBBLING ON THIS SALES PAD... MOST SALES PADS HAVE SHEETS OF CARBON PAPER BOUND INTO THE END OF THE PAD, AND THIS ONE IS PRACTICALLY USED UP! LET'S SEE...



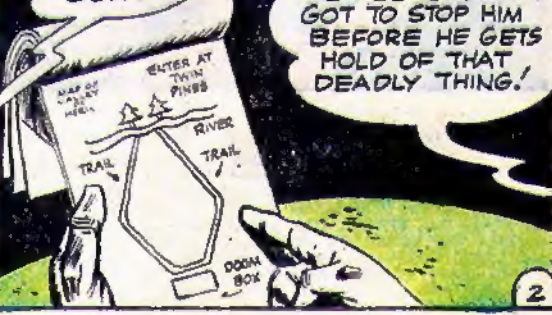
WE'RE IN LUCK! HE DREW A MAP AND A FAIR IMPRESSION OF IT CAME THROUGH THE CARBON ONTO THE CARDBOARD BACKING! LOOK!

THE VALLEY OF HERIX--LEADING TO THE-- THE DOOM BOX!



I REMEMBER-- ONE OF THE LEGENDS OF HERIX TELLS OF AN ANCIENT MECHANICAL WIZARD WHO BUILT A WEAPON WITH FANTASTIC POWERS! IT WAS CALLED THE DOOM BOX!

AND LANGDON APPARENTLY LEARNED ENOUGH ABOUT IT TO DRAW A MAP OF THE VALLEY! THE HORN MUST'VE BEEN A CLUE HE NEEDED! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM BEFORE HE GETS HOLD OF THAT DEADLY THING!



WITHOUT WASTING TIME, THE CHALLENGERS FLY TO THE MODERN LAND WHICH WAS ONCE HERIX...

YOU SAID LANGDON PROBABLY STOLE THE HORN AS A CLUE TO THE DOOM BOX'S LOCATION, ACE! BUT THAT PHOTO WE SAW DIDN'T SHOW ANY WRITING OR SYMBOLS ON THE HORN!

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT, RED! MAYBE THE HORN CONTAINED A CLUE WHICH WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND YET!



SHORTLY, AT THE SPOT DESIGNATED BY THE MAP...

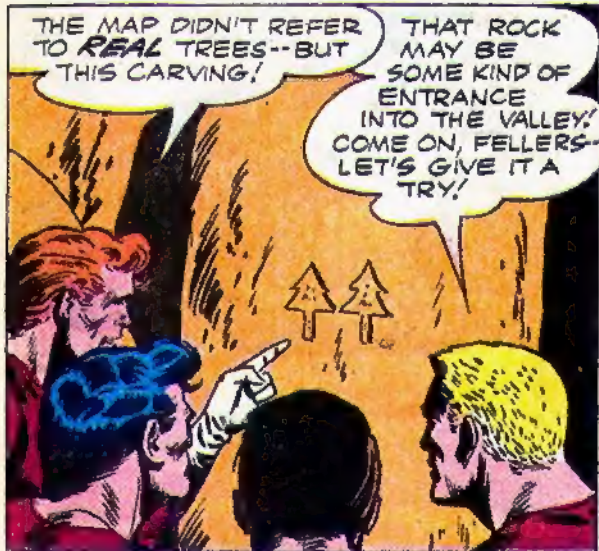
THE MAP SAID THE TRAIL STARTED AT THE TWIN PINE TREES, BUT THERE ARE NO TREES HERE!

WRONG, ROCKY! LOOK HERE!



THE MAP DIDN'T REFER TO REAL TREES--BUT THIS CARVING!

THAT ROCK MAY BE SOME KIND OF ENTRANCE INTO THE VALLEY! COME ON, FELLERS--LET'S GIVE IT A TRY!



THEN, AS THEY THROW THEIR COMBINED STRENGTH AGAINST THE SLAB...

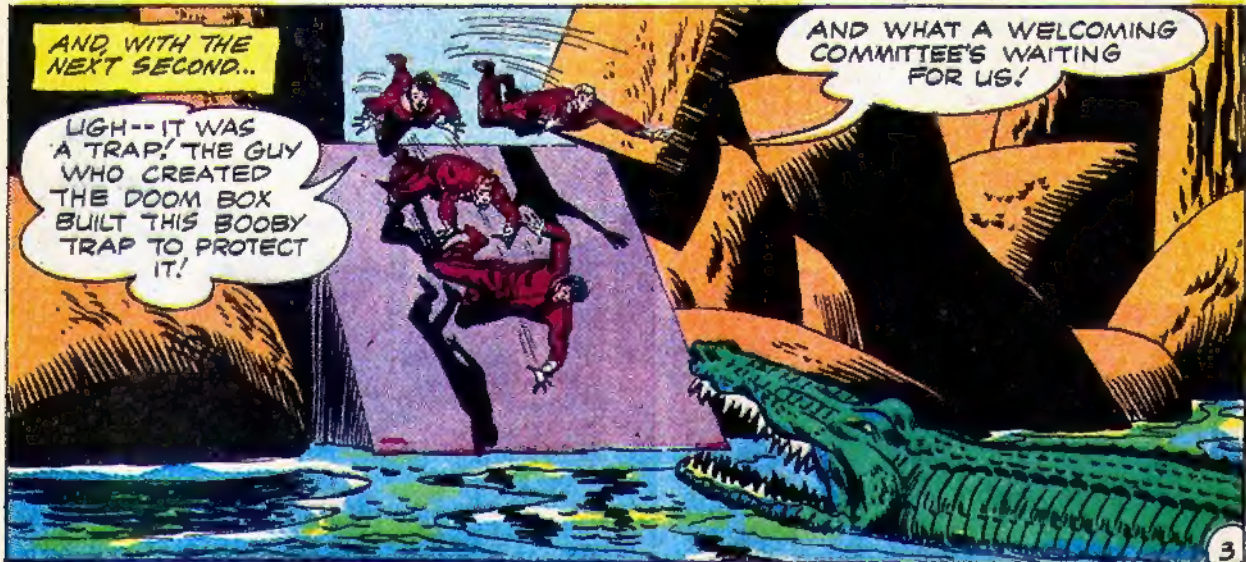
HEY--IT'S GIVING!

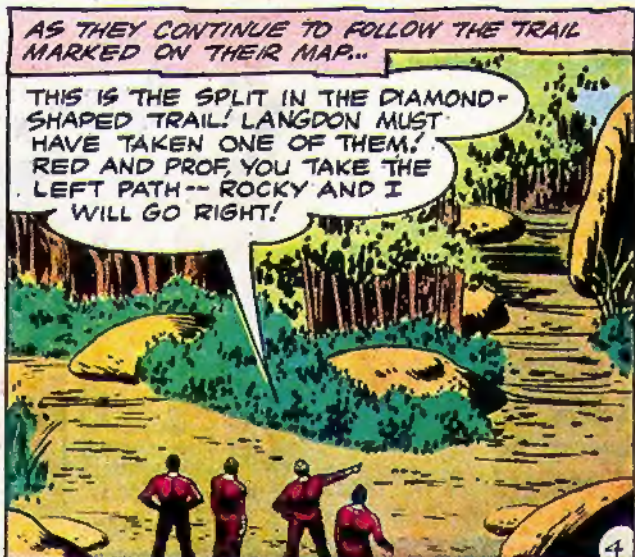
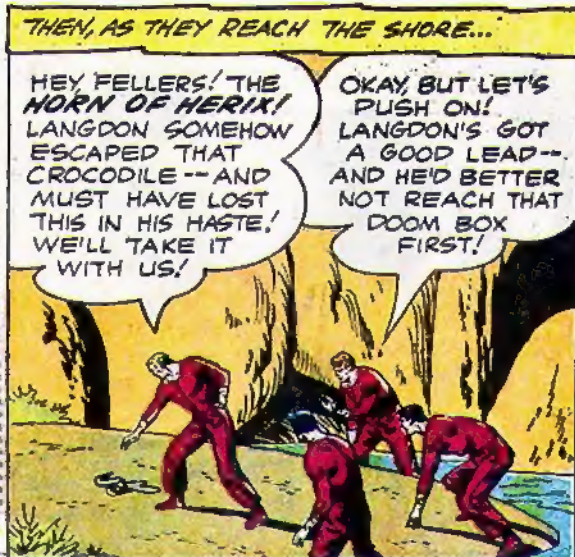
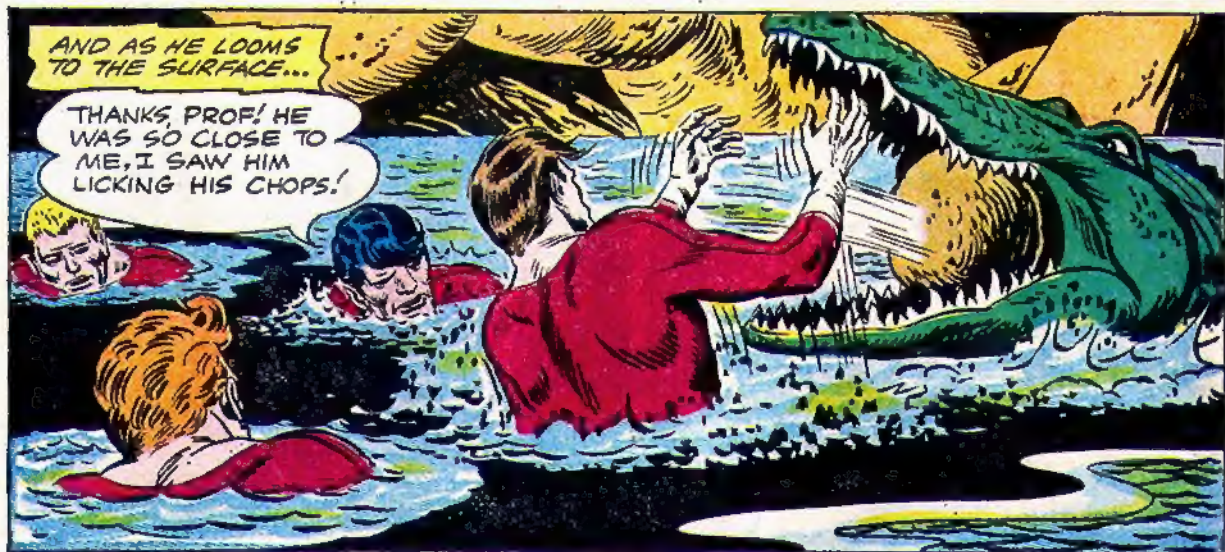
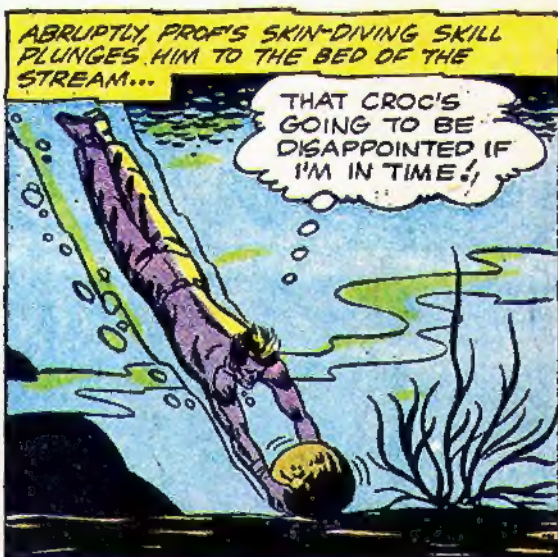
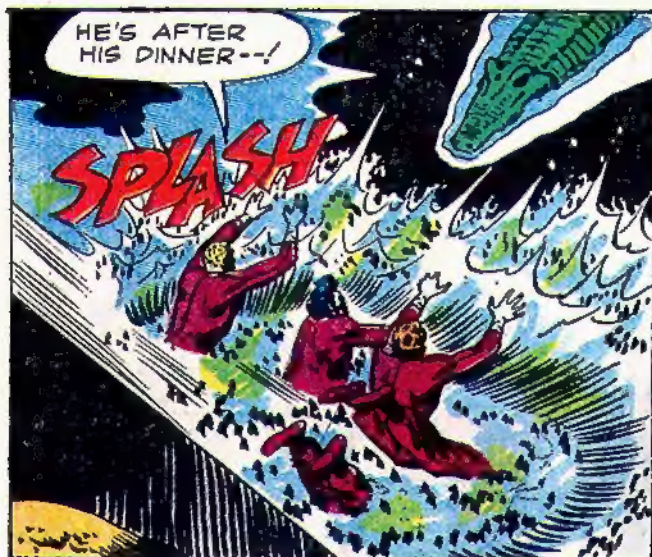


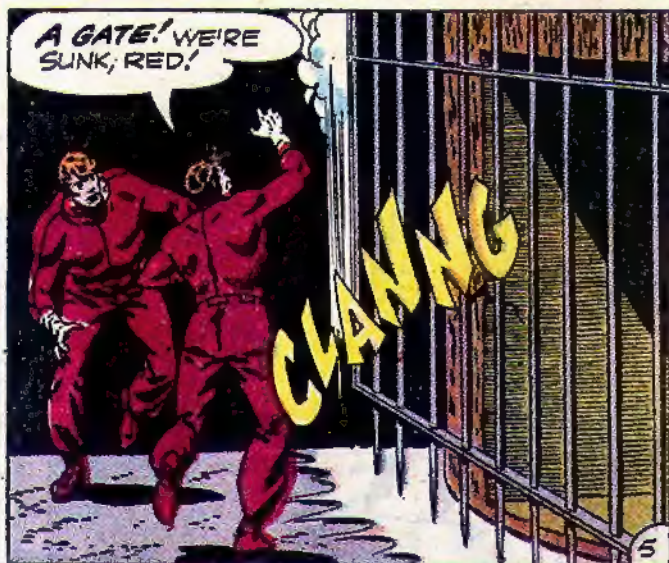
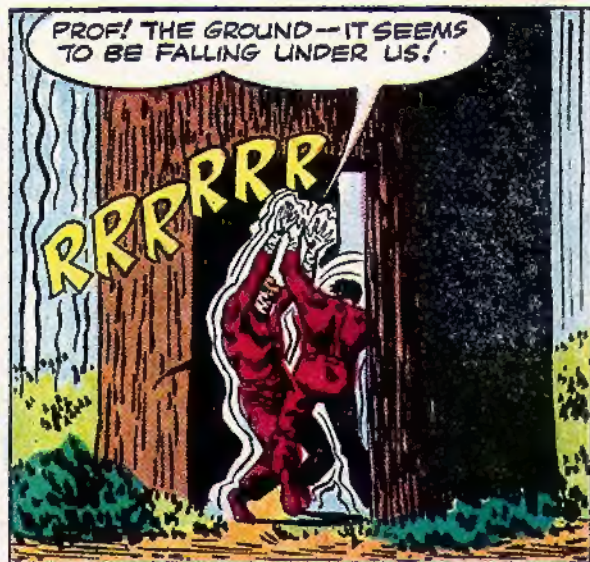
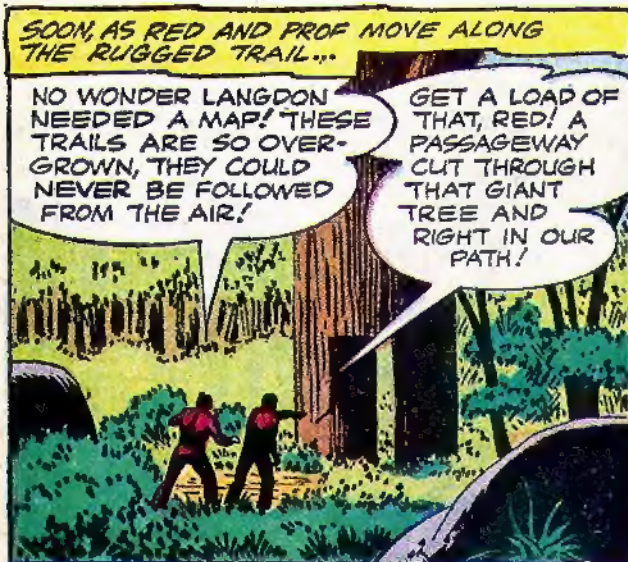
AND, WITH THE NEXT SECOND...

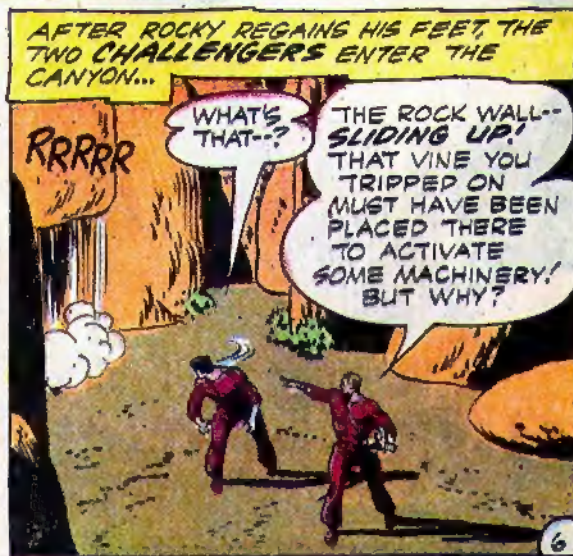
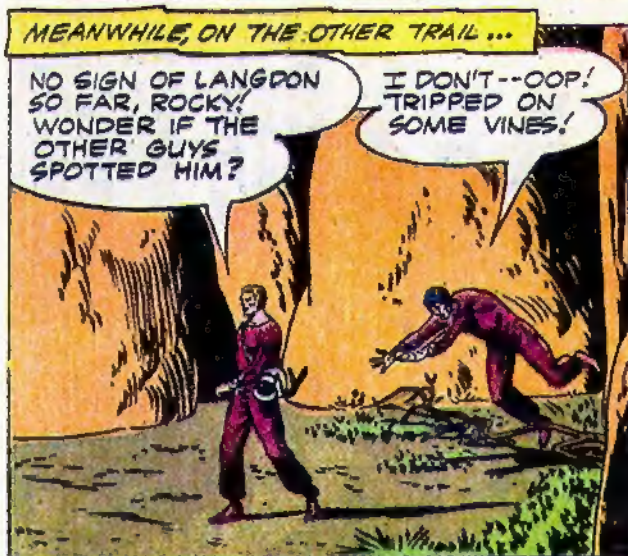
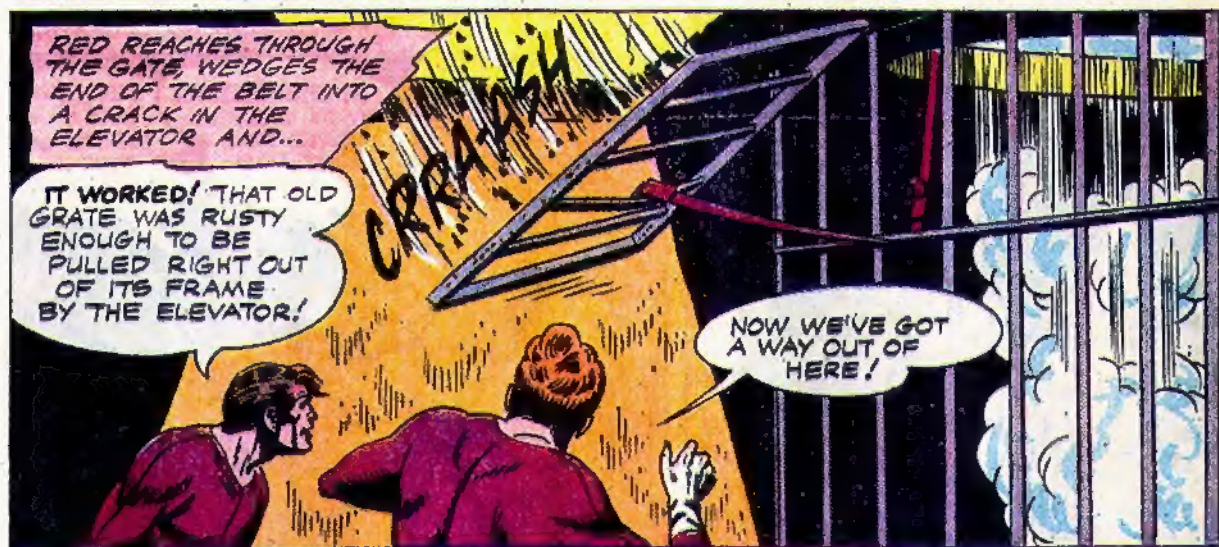
UGH--IT WAS A TRAP! THE GUY WHO CREATED THE DOOM BOX BUILT THIS BOOBY TRAP TO PROTECT IT!

AND WHAT A WELCOMING COMMITTEE'S WAITING FOR US!









THEN, OUT OF THE YAWNING SPACE STRIDES A MECHANICAL NIGHTMARE...



CLANK CLANK

A ROBOT OF AN ANCIENT WARRIOR! WE CAN'T GET PAST ITS SWINGING SWORD! THE CANYON'S BLOCKED!

WE'LL HAVE TO ESCAPE THROUGH THE OTHER END!

BUT THEIR FLIGHT IN THE OTHER DIRECTION ALSO ENDS ABRUPTLY WHEN...



ANOTHER ONE HERE! WE'RE TRAPPED!

CLANK CLANK



BOTH OF 'EM ARE ADVANCING! AND WE'RE CAUGHT BETWEEN THEM!

THAT TREE BACK THERE! QUICK, ROCKY! RIP IT LOOSE!

CLANK! CLANK!

CLOSER AND CLOSER MOVE THE MENACING MECHANICAL GIANTS...



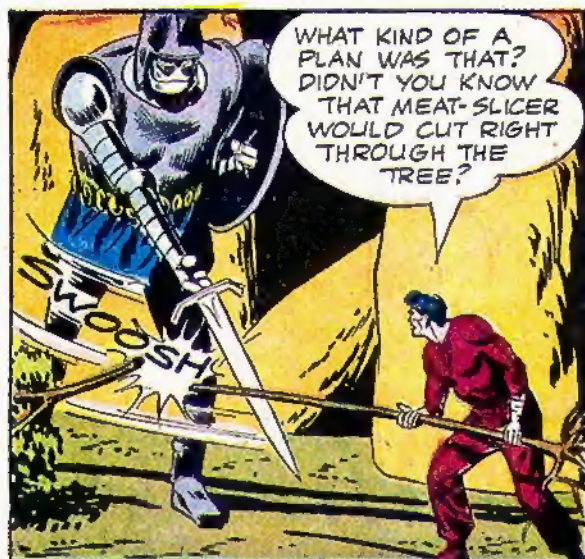
HURRY, ROCKY! THOSE THINGS ARE ALMOST ON TOP OF US!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT IN MIND ACE, BUT HERE IT COMES! NOW WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO WITH IT?

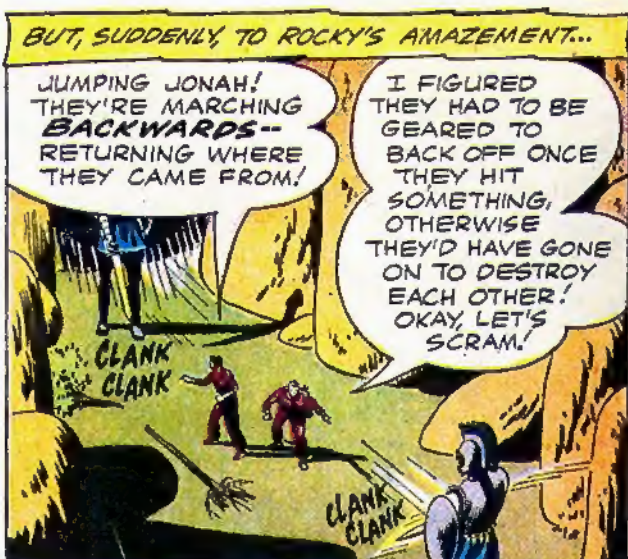
CLANK CLANK

RR-III-P!

CLANK CLANK



WHAT KIND OF A PLAN WAS THAT? DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT MEAT-SLICER WOULD CUT RIGHT THROUGH THE TREE?



BUT, SUDDENLY, TO ROCKY'S AMAZEMENT...

JUMPING JONAH! THEY'RE MARCHING **BACKWARDS**-- RETURNING WHERE THEY CAME FROM!

I FIGURED THEY HAD TO BE GEARED TO BACK OFF ONCE THEY HIT SOMETHING, OTHERWISE THEY'D HAVE GONE ON TO DESTROY EACH OTHER! OKAY, LET'S SCRAM!



SHORTLY, WHEN THE TWO TEAMS SIGHT EACH OTHER...

HI, GUYS! ANY SIGN OF LANGDON ON YOUR PATH?

NO...MAYBE HE GOT THROUGH AND FOUND THE-- **HEY LOOK! THE DOOM BOX!** LANGDON DIDN'T FIND IT AFTER ALL!



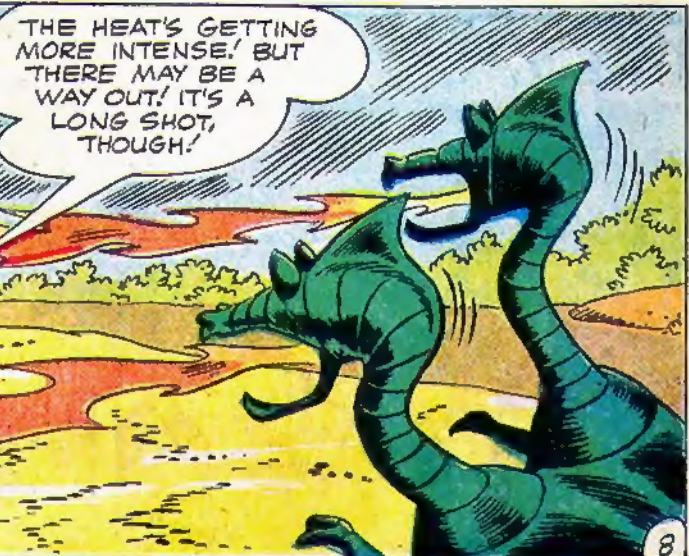
BUT, AS PROF DASHES TOWARD THE LEGENDARY WEAPON...

ANOTHER DANGEROUS OBSTACLE SPRINGING OUT OF THE GROUND! THIS WHOLE VALLEY WAS BOOBY-TRAPPED TO PROTECT THE DOOM BOX!



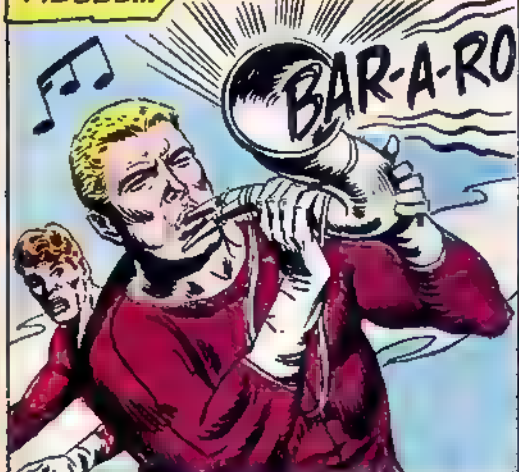
AND, AS THE FIRE-SNORTING FOE STALKS TOWARDS THE FOURSOME...

THE FLAMES ARE CUTTING US OFF FROM BOTH PATHS! IT'S BACKING US INTO THE ROCK BLUFF!

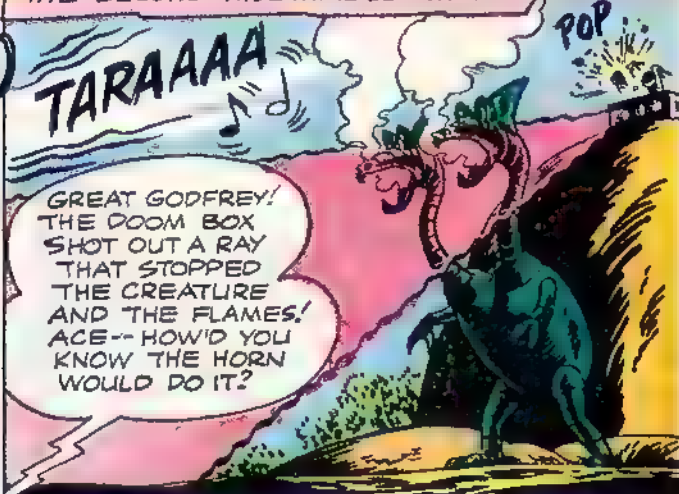


THE HEAT'S GETTING MORE INTENSE! BUT THERE MAY BE A WAY OUT! IT'S A LONG SHOT, THOUGH!

RAISING THE WEIRD INSTRUMENT, ACE BLOWS ON ONE OF THE MOUTHPIECES...



BUT NO SOONER DOES HE ISSUE A NOTE ON THE SECOND MOUTHPIECE THAN...



I NOTICED TWO GADGETS ATOP THE DOOM BOX, EACH WITH THE SAME SHAPE AS THE HORN! I THOUGHT THEY MUST BE RELATED! THE HORN'S SECOND MOUTHPIECE POPPED THIS AND ACTIVATED THAT RAY!

THE GUY WHO BUILT THE DOOM BOX CREATED THE FLAME CREATURE TO PROTECT IT! BUT HE NEEDED SOMETHING TO PROTECT HIMSELF FROM THE MONSTER, IF HE EVER WANTED TO GET THE BOX!



OKAY, LET'S GET THIS OUT OF HERE!

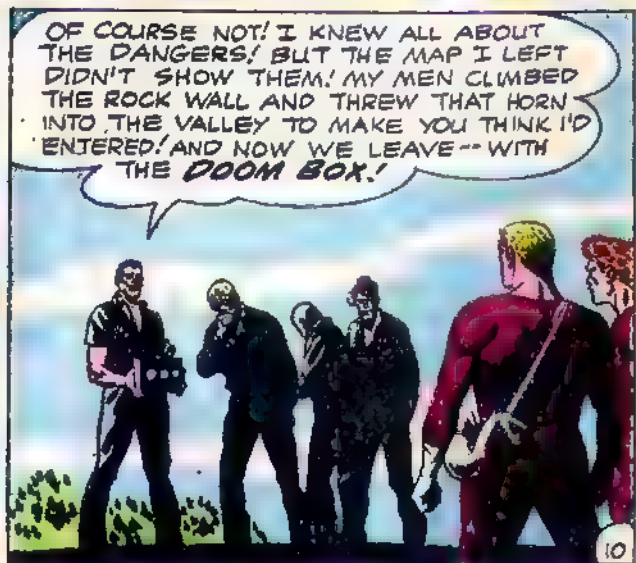
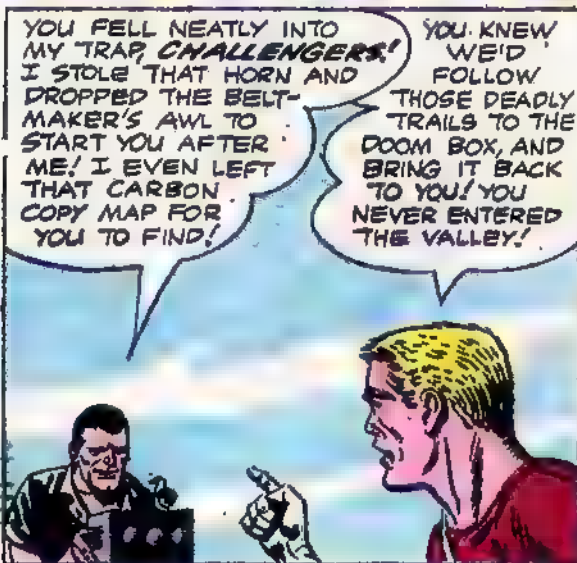
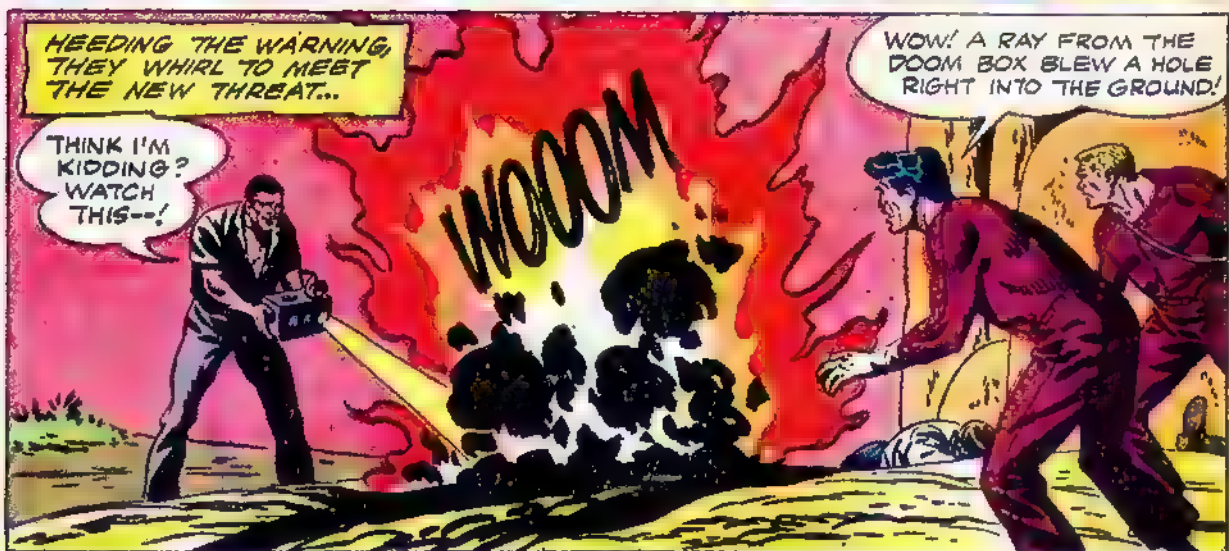
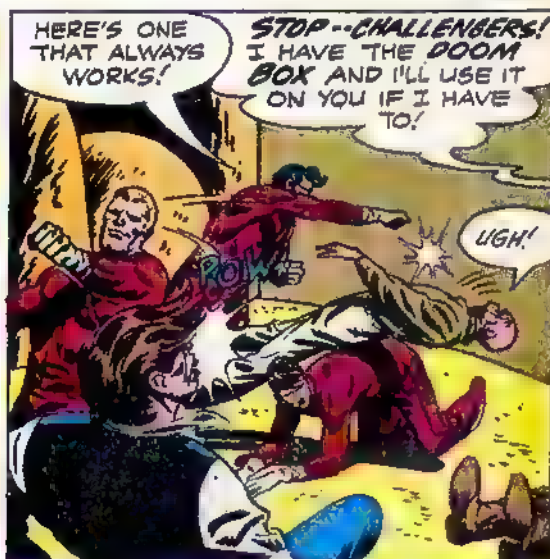
LUCKY THING LANGDON DIDN'T GET HIS HANDS ON IT! WHO KNOWS HOW MANY DESTRUCTIVE POWERS THAT THING CONTAINS! WE'LL STUDY IT BACK AT OUR LAB!



WITH GREAT CARE, THE CHALLENGERS RE-CROSS THE VALLEY, BUT JUST AS THEY EMERGE...

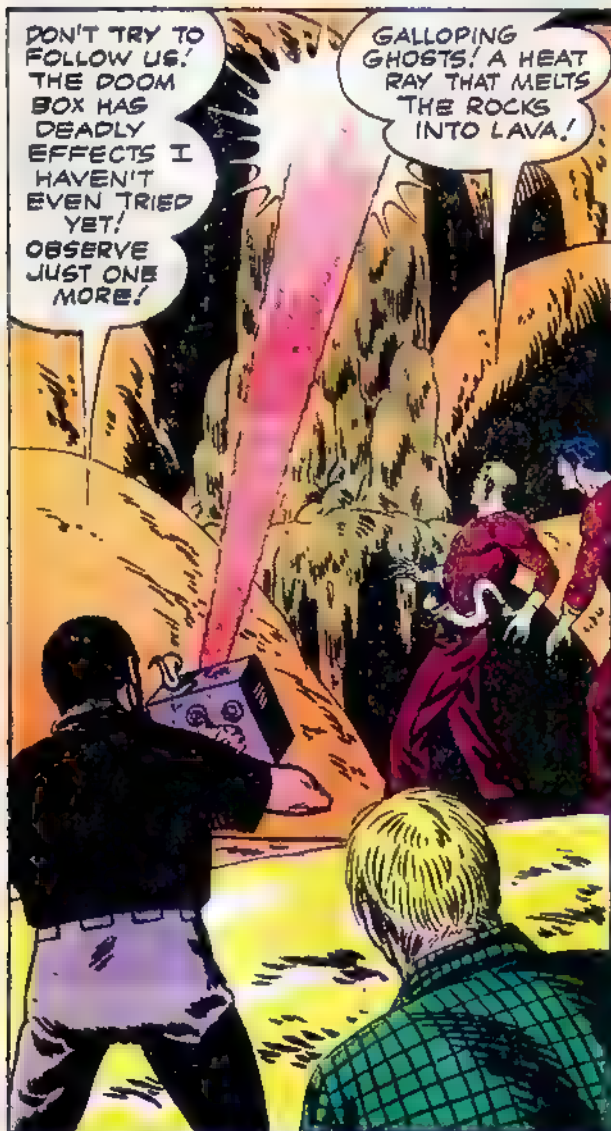
THANKS FOR DOING MY WORK FOR ME, CHALLENGERS!



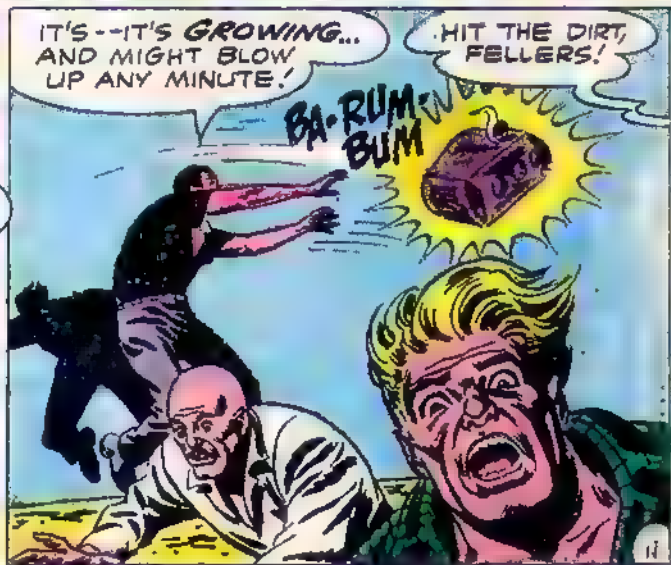
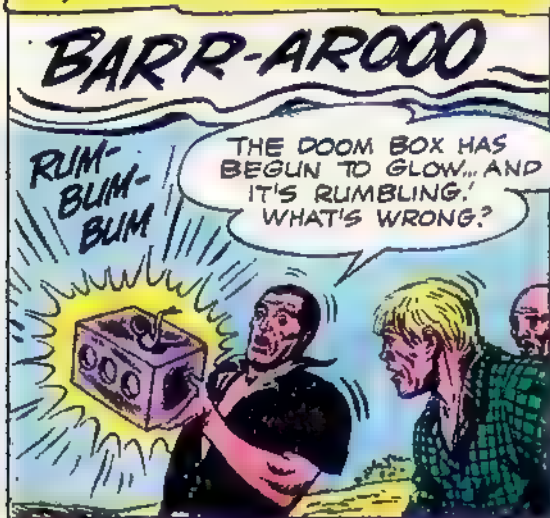


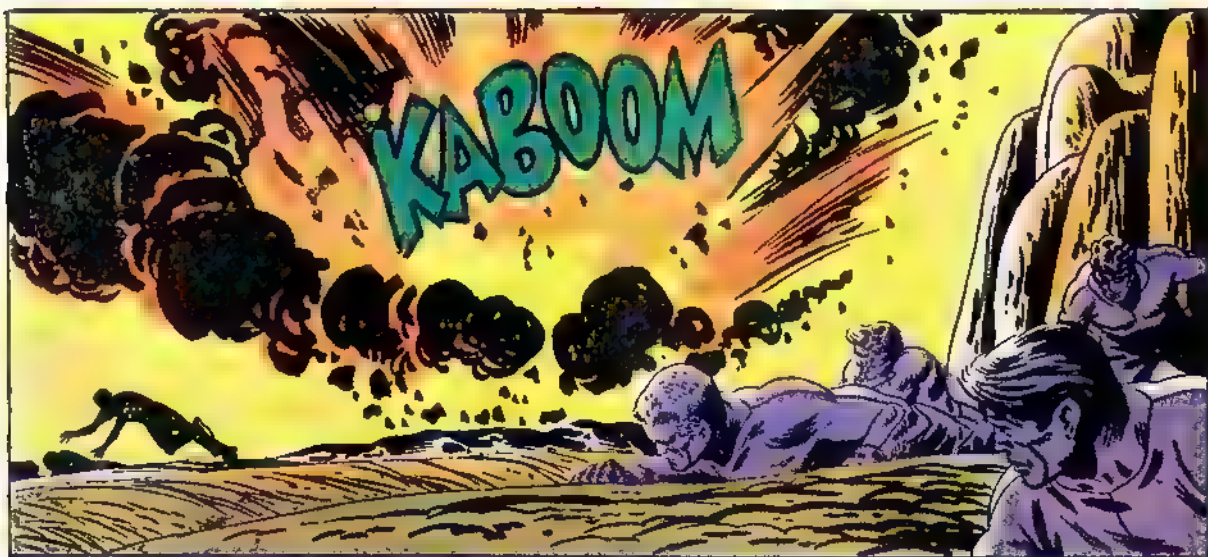


CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

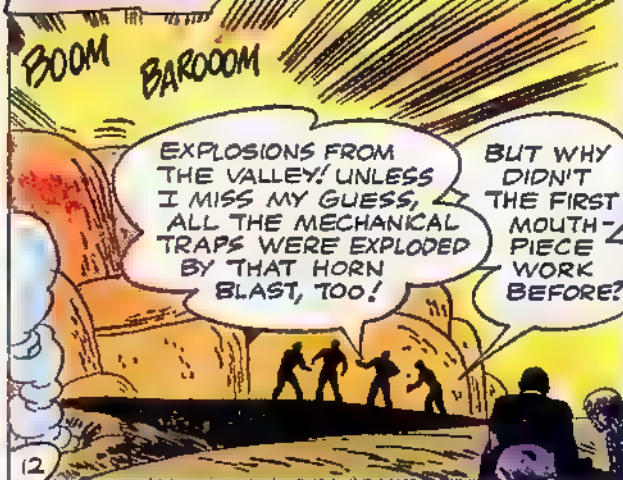


BUT, AS THE BLAST WAFTS AHEAD...





AND AS OTHER EXPLOSIONS SOUND IN THE DISTANCE...



BOOM

BAROOM

EXPLOSIONS FROM THE VALLEY! UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, ALL THE MECHANICAL TRAPS WERE EXPLODED BY THAT HORN BLAST, TOO!

BUT WHY DIDN'T THE FIRST MOUTH-PIECE WORK BEFORE?

BECAUSE IT WAS GEARED TO DESTROY THE DOOM BOX ONLY WHEN IT WASN'T PROTECTED BY THE FLAMING CREATURE!

WELL, I'M KIND OF GLAD WE GOT THE HORN AS A MEMENTO INSTEAD OF THAT WEIRD BOX!



The End

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HIS FIRST GIRL FRIEND
(SHE'S AS SNOOPY
AS LOIS LANE!)

Meet
KRYPTO...
HIS FRISKY SUPER-DOG
(THEY ROMP TOGETHER
IN OUTER SPACE!)

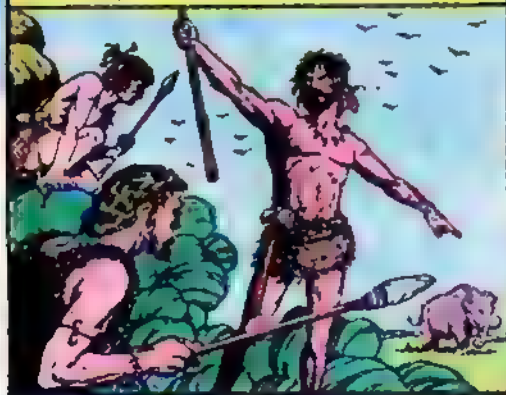
Meet
JONATHAN and MARTHA KENT...
THE KINDLY COUPLE WHO
ARE THE BOY OF STEEL'S
FOSTER PARENTS!

Meet
LEX LUTHOR...
A BRILLIANT TEEN-AGER
DESTINED TO BECOME
SUPERMAN'S ARCH-FOE!

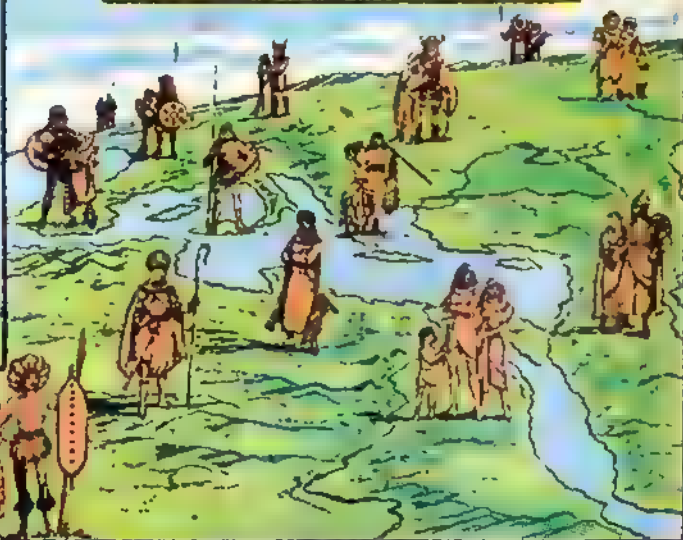
On Sale Everywhere!

PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE!

ORIGINALLY, BEFORE THE DAWN OF HISTORY, ALL MEN WERE OF THE SAME RACE...



THEN, AS MAN SPREAD OUT OVER THE WORLD, PHYSICAL CHANGES GRADUALLY OCCURRED IN HIS APPEARANCE...

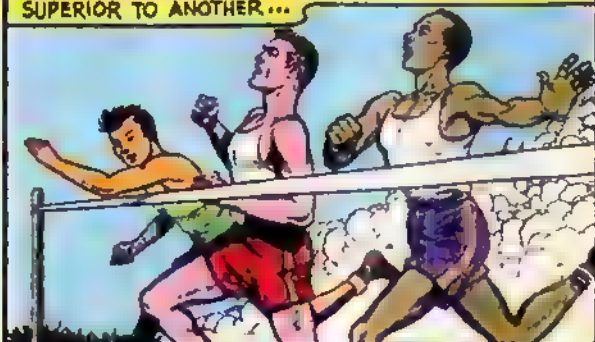


DEPENDING ON WHERE THEY HAD MIGRATED TO, SOME MEN BECAME DARKER, SOME LIGHTER, SOME LARGER, SOME SMALLER...

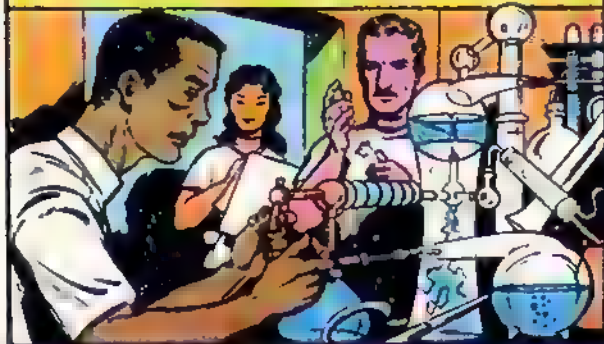


BUT BASICALLY, THEY REMAINED THE SAME HUMANS!

SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS HAVE PROVEN THAT NO ONE RACE IS SUPERIOR TO ANOTHER...



ALL RACES ARE CAPABLE OF PERFORMING THE SAME WORK, OF REACHING THE SAME LEVEL OF EDUCATION...



ALL CAN AND MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR PEACE AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF MANKIND-- AS THEY ARE DOING RIGHT NOW IN THE UNITED NATIONS!

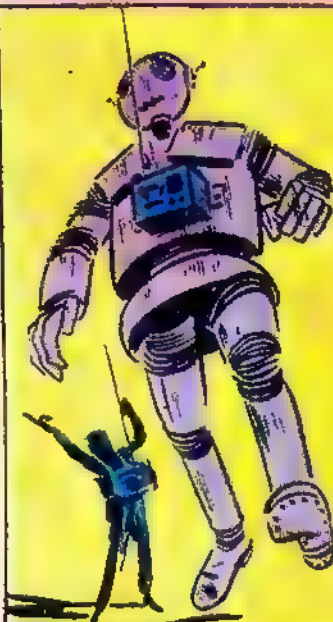


SCIENTIFIC WORD ORIGINS

AMOEBIA-- ONE OF THE SIMPLEST FORMS OF ANIMAL LIFE -- COMES FROM THE GREEK WORD **AMOEIBI**, MEANING "CHANGE". BECAUSE THIS MICROSCOPIC ANIMAL CONSTANTLY CHANGES ITS SHAPE AS IT CONSUMES FOOD...



THE TERM **ROBOT** WAS FIRST USED IN KAREL CAPEK'S PLAY, "R.U.R." AND DESCRIBED A MAN-MADE MECHANICAL SLAVE. THE WORD WAS COINED FROM **ROBOTNIK**--THE CZECH WORD FOR "SLAVE"



ORIGINALLY, ANYTHING DUG UP FROM THE EARTH WAS CALLED A **FOSSIL** --FROM THE LATIN **FODERE**, "TO DIG". THUS, IRISH POTATOES WERE ONCE CALLED **IRISH FOSSILS**. SCIENTIFICALLY, THE WORD IS NOW LIMITED TO THE REMAINS OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS OF PAST AGES.



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FREE: Midget Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting
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IT DRIFTED OVER EARTH, AN UNSUSPECTED MENACE TO ALL! FOR CONCEALED WITHIN THE CLOUD THAT CAMOUFLAGED THE SHIP WERE ALIENS WITH A BOLD PLAN TO PLUNDER EARTH! WHEN THE CHALLENGERS BECAME INVOLVED, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES FACED WITH ONE FANTASTIC SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER, UNTIL THEY ENDED THE MENACE OF...

the ISLAND in the SKY

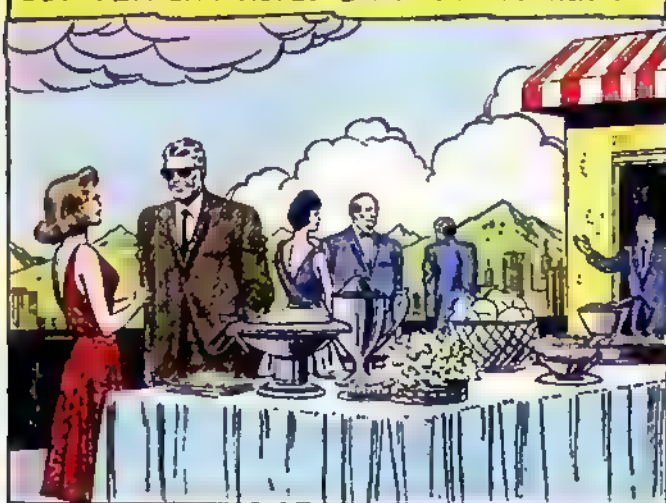
CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

HEY! THESE ALIENS SPRUNG A TRICK ON US-- BLEW US RIGHT OFF OUR PINS!

THAT WAS ONE WAY TO STOP US FROM SWINGING! BUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



IT IS NOON AS GUESTS ATOP A TOWERING BOULDER CITY HOTEL GATHER FOR LUNCH...



...WHEN SUDDENLY...

EEEK!

THE--THE BUFFET--EVERY SCRAP OF FOOD -- DISAPPEARED! BUT... THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!

IT'S INCREDIBLE, ALL RIGHT... BUT A MYSTERY RIGHT UP THE ALLEY FOR THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN!

WASTING NO TIME, JUNE ROBBINS, HONORARY MEMBER OF THE FAMED FOURSOME, SPEEDS TO THEIR SECRET BASE IN THE NEARBY ROCKY MOUNTAINS...

BUT THERE WAS NOTHING SUSPICIOUS, ACE! JUST AS A CLOUD COVERED THE SUN--

THE FOOD VANISHED! HM-M... I REMEMBER READING THREE DAYS AGO ABOUT A MODEL HOUSE THAT MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED! THIS IS CERTAINLY WEIRD!



WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ANNOUNCE THAT TWO STRANGE BEINGS, POSSIBLY ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD, HAVE APPEARED DOWNTOWN! POLICE ARE NOW --

ALIENS! THEY'RE OUR LEAD TO THOSE FREAK DISAPPEARANCES! LET'S GET THERE--FAST!



THE COPTER NO SOONER DEPOSITS THE FAMED CHALLENGERS THAN...

THERE THEY ARE-- AND THEY'VE OPENED UP ON THE POLICE WITH SOME PECULIAR WEAPONS!

YEAH, RED... AND TRAPPING THEM IN CIRCULAR PENS! THEY'D DO THE SAME TO US! SO RIGHT NOW, LET'S RESCUE THOSE OFFICERS!



AND AS THE CHALLENGERS FREE THE TRAPPED OFFICERS...

WHEN WE TRIED TO BRING 'EM IN FOR QUESTIONING, THEY STARTED TALKING TO US THROUGH SOME KIND OF SPEECH DISC!

SPEECH DISC? GOOD! AT LEAST WE'LL BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE IF AND WHEN WE CATCH UP TO THEM!



WE'LL KEEP ON THEIR TRAIL... YOU'D BETTER NOTIFY YOUR PRECINCT TO SEND RIOT SQUADS! THEIR EQUIPMENT MAY BE NEEDED!

THEY TOOK OFF THAT WAY, LUCKILY, TOWARDS THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY!



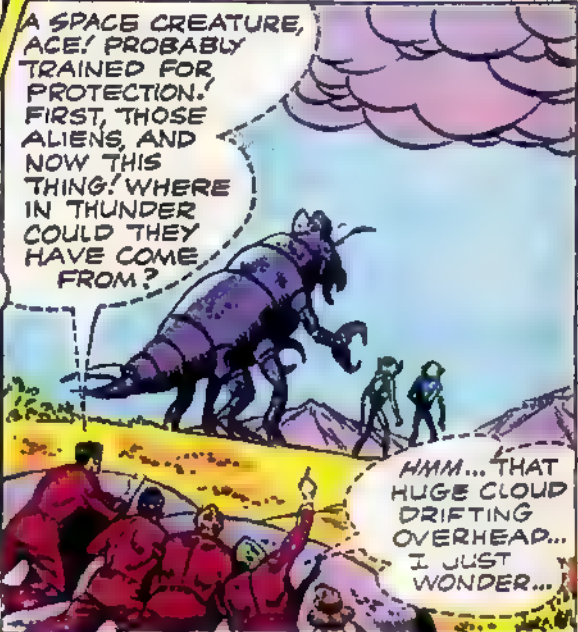
SHORTLY...

THERE THEY ARE-- AND THEY'VE GOT COMPANY!

TAKE COVER--FAST! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, PROF?



A SPACE CREATURE, ACE! PROBABLY TRAINED FOR PROTECTION! FIRST, THOSE ALIENS, AND NOW THIS THING! WHERE IN THUNDER COULD THEY HAVE COME FROM?



HMM... THAT HUGE CLOUD DRIFTING OVERHEAD... I JUST WONDER...

I GET IT, ACE! THE MODEL HOUSE AND TABLE OF FOOD WERE IN THE SHADOWS OF A CLOUD WHEN THEY DISAPPEARED!

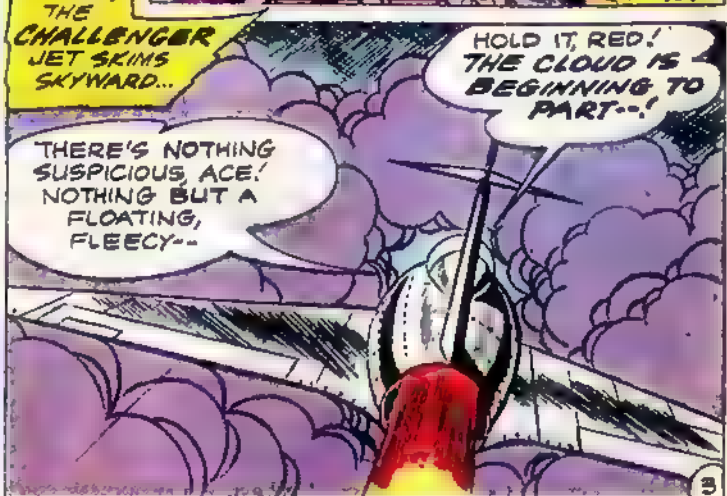
AND NOW A BEAST HAS SUDDENLY APPEARED-- AS A CLOUD DRIFTS ABOVE! RED, JUNE, AND I WILL CHECK IT OUT WHILE YOU STAY ON THE JOB HERE!

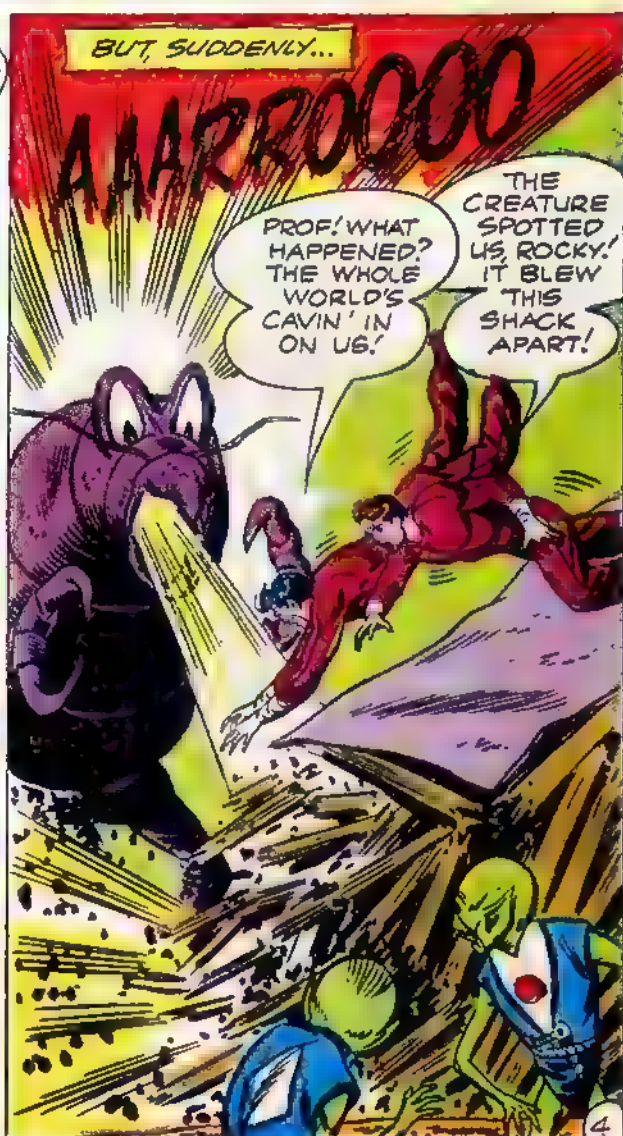
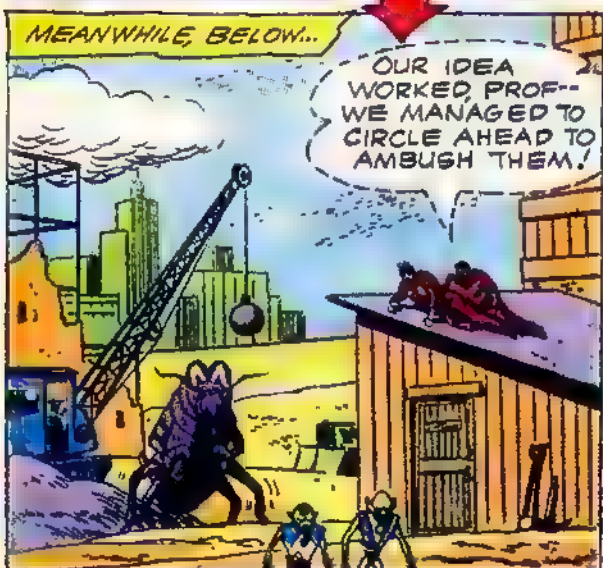
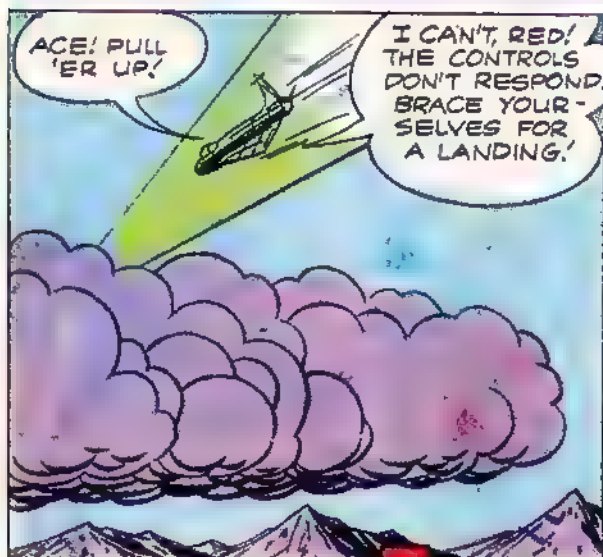
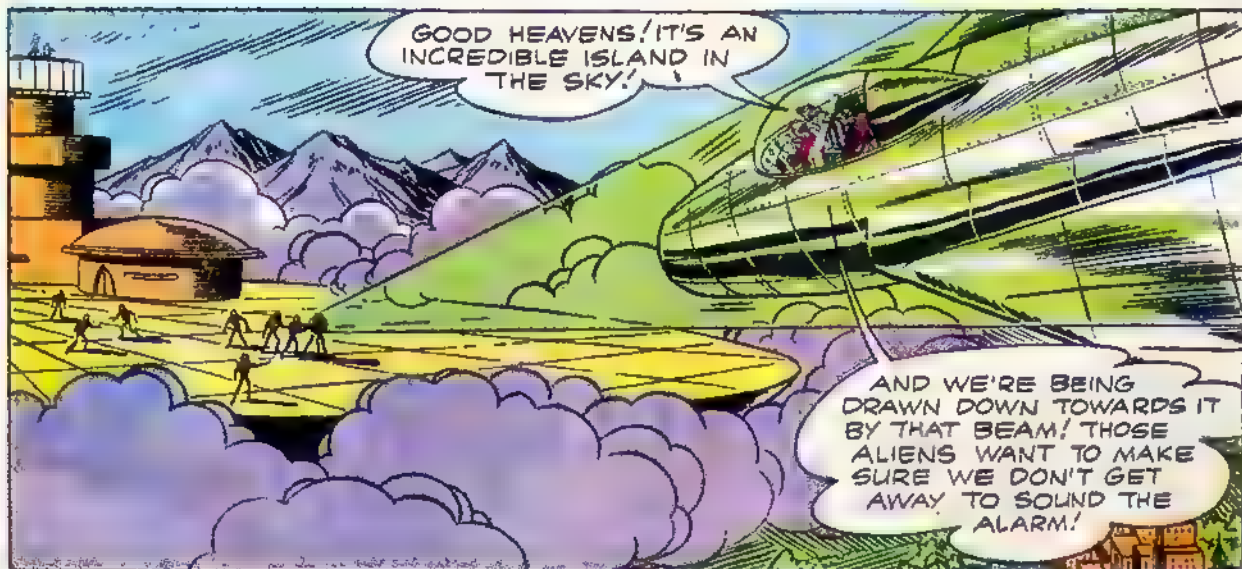


SHORTLY AFTER, THE CHALLENGER JET SKIMS SKYWARD...

THERE'S NOTHING SUSPICIOUS, ACE! NOTHING BUT A FLOATING, FLEECY--

HOLD IT, RED! THE CLOUD IS BEGINNING TO PART--!

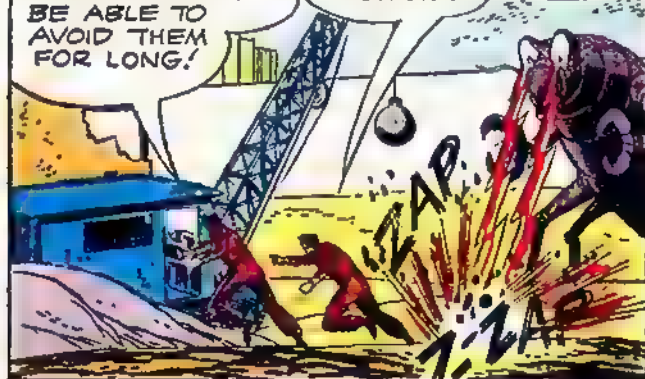




AS THEY SCAMPER TO THEIR FEET, STILL ANOTHER BESTIAL FURY IS UNLEASHED...

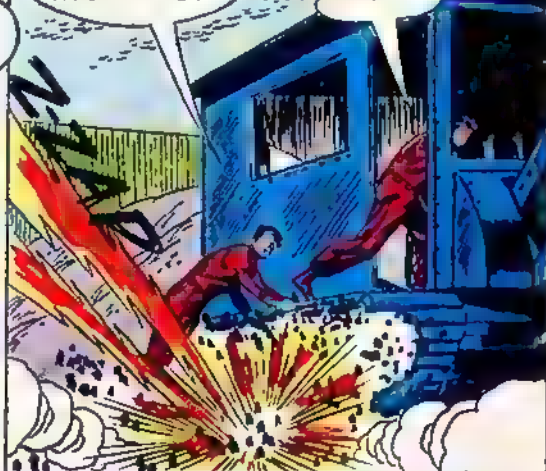
IT'S SPEWING LIGHTNING BOLTS AT US, ROCKY! WE... WE WON'T BE ABLE TO AVOID THEM FOR LONG!

MAYBE WE WON'T HAVE TO, PROF...IF WE CAN MAKE THAT MACHINE! C'MON...



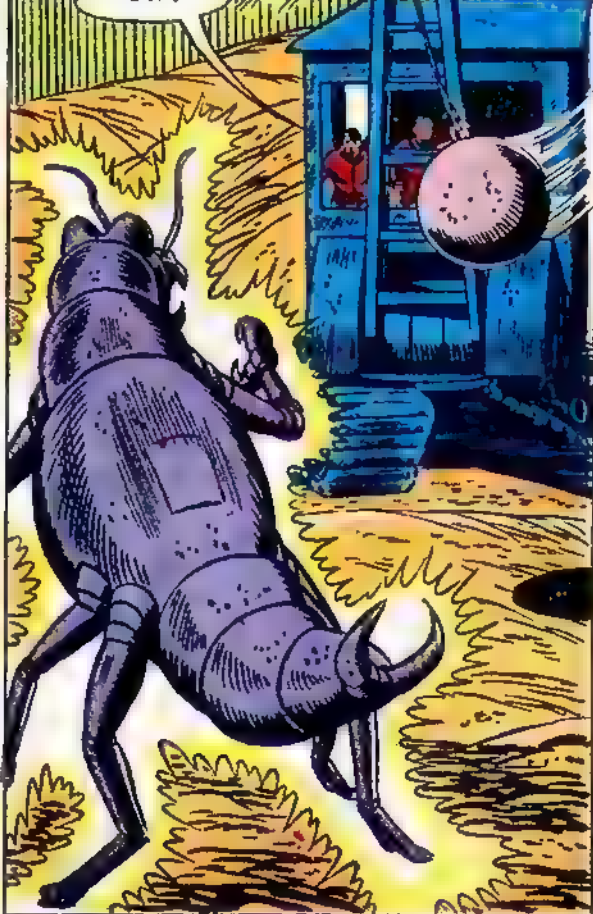
ROCKY...CAN YOU WORK THIS THING?

HOP ABOARD... AND I'LL SHOW YOU!

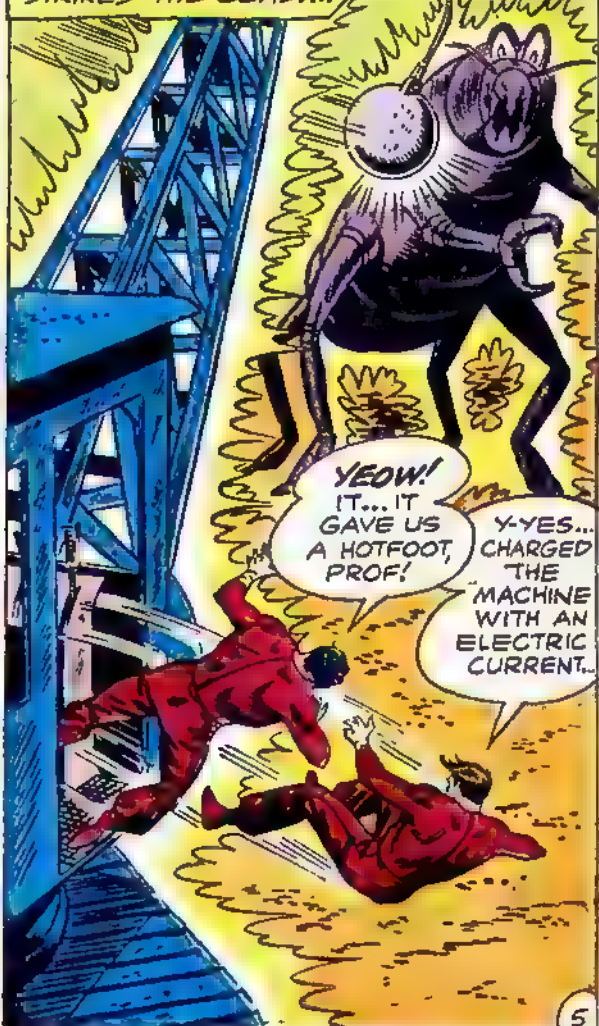


ROCKY SETS THE MACHINE IN MOTION... THE HUGE BALL ARCS TOWARDS ITS TARGET, WHEN ABRUPTLY...

LOOK--IT'S BEGUN TO GLOW! WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW?



PROF'S QUESTION IS ANSWERED A MOMENT LATER AS THE SPHERE STRIKES THE BEAST...



STUNNED THEIR STRENGTH SAPPED FROM THEM, ROCKY AND PROF ARE AT THE MERCY OF THE CREATURE WHEN...

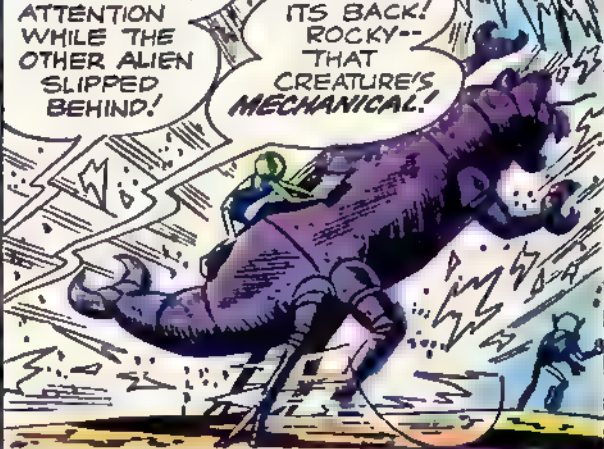
PROF! HE'S SHOOTING AT HIS OWN BEAST! THIS DOESN'T ADD UP!

HE'S TRYING TO IMPRISON IT IN ONE OF THOSE CIRCULAR PENS! BUT WILL IT WORK...?



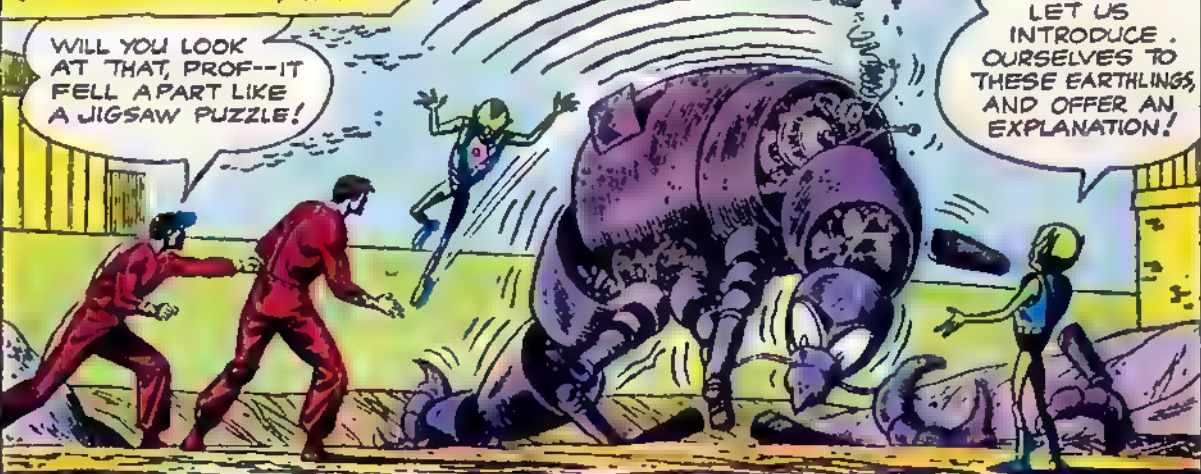
OW! NO DICE! BUT I THINK HE FIRED TO HOLD THE BEAST'S ATTENTION WHILE THE OTHER ALIEN SLIPPED BEHIND!

AND HE'S OPENING A SMALL PANEL IN ITS BACK! ROCKY-- THAT CREATURE'S MECHANICAL!



ALL AT ONCE, THE GREAT HULK QUIVERS VIOLENTLY, THEN...

WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT, PROF--IT FELL APART LIKE A JIGSAW PUZZLE!



WELL DONE, GREEG! NOW LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES TO THESE EARTHLINGS, AND OFFER AN EXPLANATION!

NOT LONG AFTER...

DR. KUE--YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU AND YOUR ASSISTANT, GREEG, ARE ALIEN SCIENTISTS... AND THAT SPACE CRIMINALS ABDUCTED YOU?

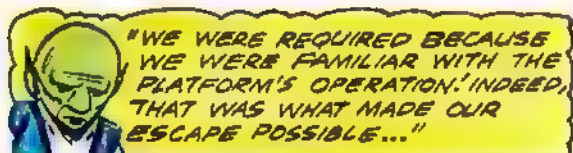
EXACTLY! UNDER OUR SUPERVISION, AN AMAZING SPACE PLATFORM HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPLORING FAR AWAY PLANETS UNSEEN!



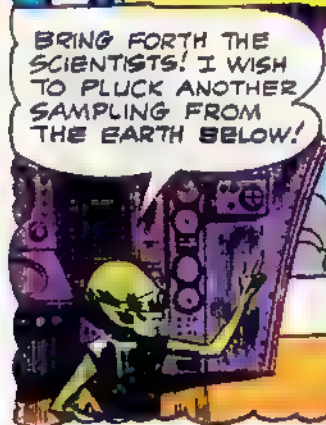
YOU SEE, WE DID NOT WANT TO STARTLE OR FRIGHTEN PEOPLE! SO, WE CONCEIVED A UNIQUE CLOUD CAMOUFLAGE FOR THE PLATFORM!

IT WAS THEN THAT ZOG AND HIS CRIMINAL GROUP STRUCK-- CAPTURED US AND FORCED US TO FLY THE PLATFORM HERE!





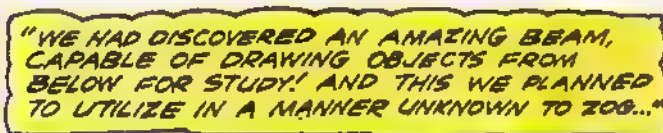
"WE WERE REQUIRED BECAUSE WE WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE PLATFORM'S OPERATION. INDEED, THAT WAS WHAT MADE OUR ESCAPE POSSIBLE..."



BRING FORTH THE SCIENTISTS! I WISH TO PLUCK ANOTHER SAMPLING FROM THE EARTH BELOW!



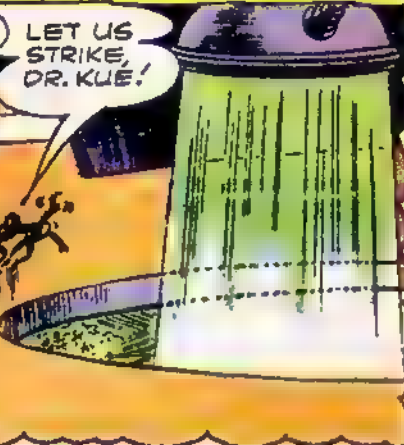
PERHAPS OUR CHANCE WILL COME THIS TIME, GREGG! KEEP ALERT!



"WE HAD DISCOVERED AN AMAZING BEAM, CAPABLE OF DRAWING OBJECTS FROM BELOW FOR STUDY! AND THIS WE PLANNED TO UTILIZE IN A MANNER UNKNOWN TO ZOG..."



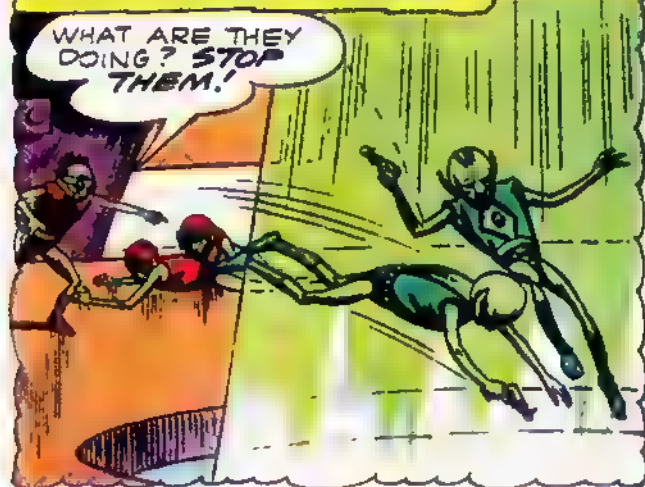
NOW, GREGG... OR IT WILL BE NEVER!



LET US STRIKE, DR. KUE!



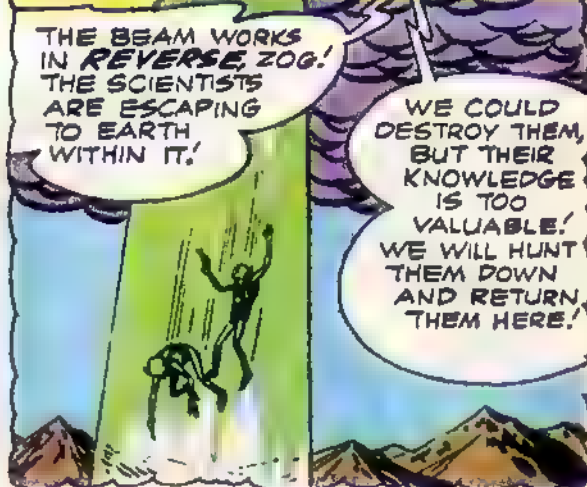
"DISARMING THE GUARDS, WE MADE A BOLD LUNGE FOR FREEDOM..."



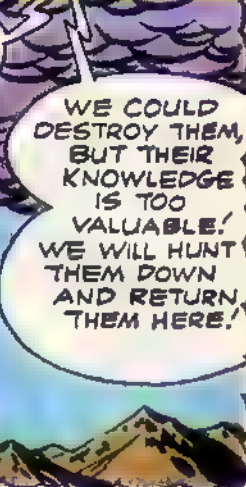
WHAT ARE THEY DOING? STOP THEM!



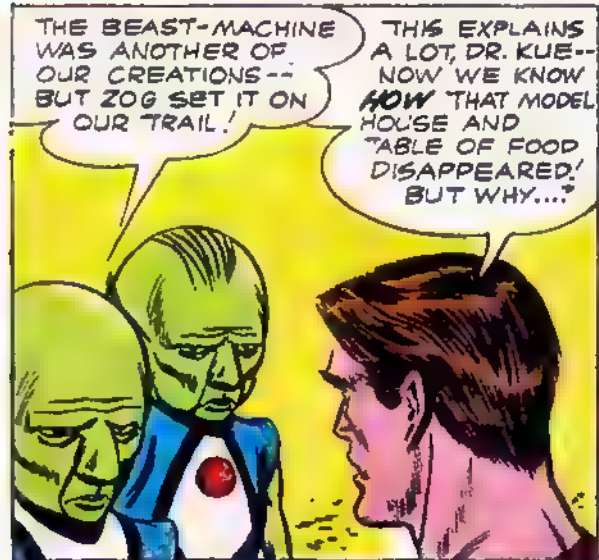
"BUT THE FATES WERE WITH US THAT DAY..."



THE BEAM WORKS IN REVERSE, ZOG! THE SCIENTISTS ARE ESCAPING TO EARTH WITHIN IT!

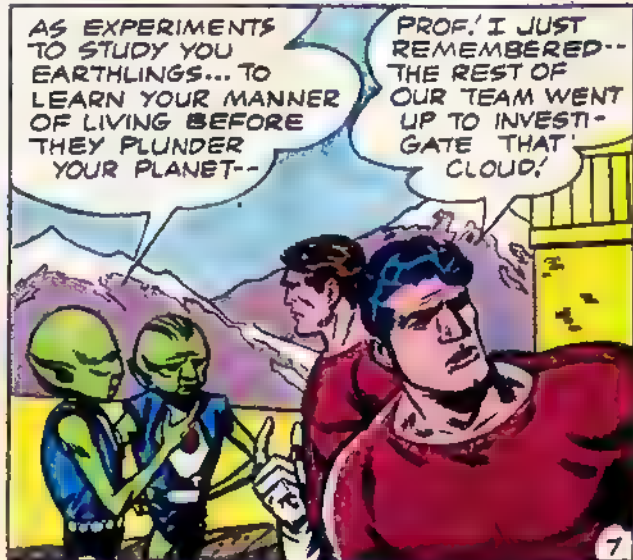


WE COULD DESTROY THEM, BUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE IS TOO VALUABLE! WE WILL HUNT THEM DOWN AND RETURN THEM HERE!



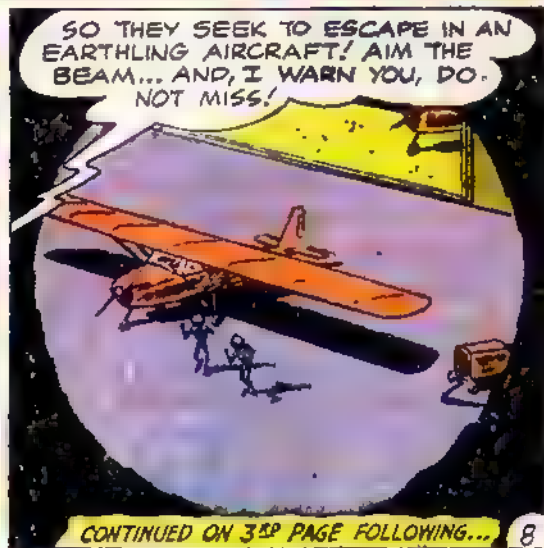
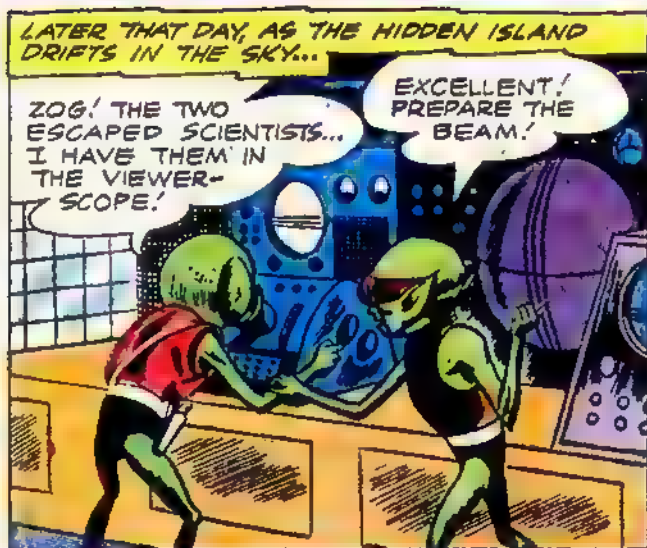
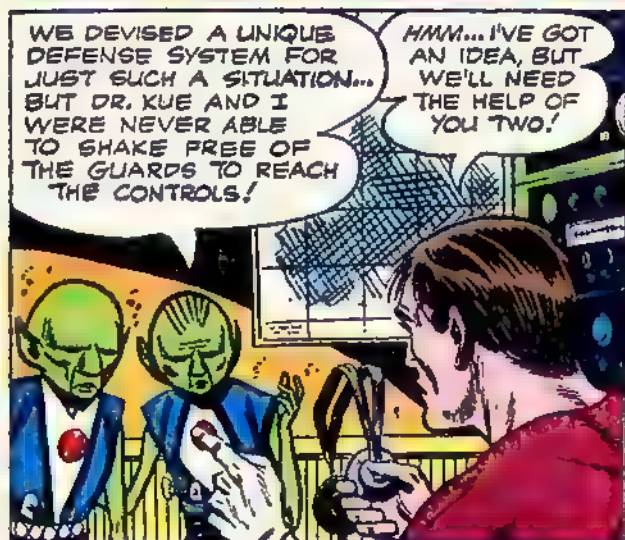
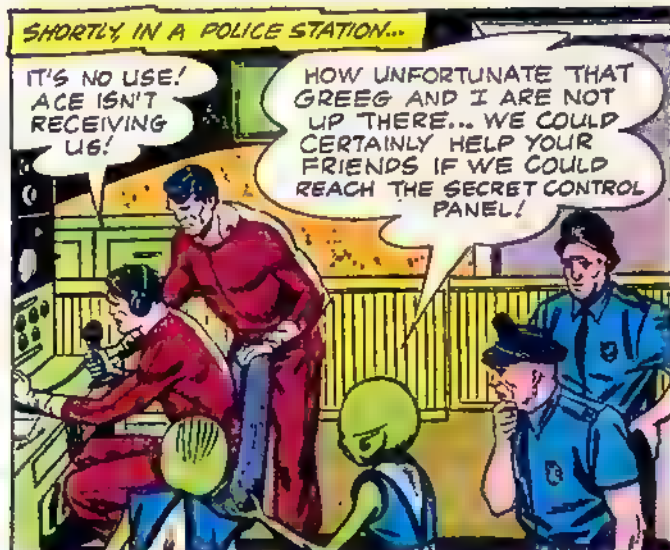
THE BEAST-MACHINE WAS ANOTHER OF OUR CREATIONS-- BUT ZOG SET IT ON OUR TRAIL!

THIS EXPLAINS A LOT, DR. KUE-- NOW WE KNOW HOW THAT MODEL HOUSE AND TABLE OF FOOD DISAPPEARED! BUT WHY...?



AS EXPERIMENTS TO STUDY YOU EARTHLINGS... TO LEARN YOUR MANNER OF LIVING BEFORE THEY PLUNDER YOUR PLANET--

PROF! I JUST REMEMBERED-- THE REST OF OUR TEAM WENT UP TO INVESTIGATE THAT CLOUD!



The Amazing Predictions Of Mlle. Lenormand

THE scene took place in a ramshackle house at 53 Rue Tournon in Paris. The year was 1794. A beautiful 21-year-old girl from Marseilles, Desiree Clary, sat opposite the world-famous clairvoyant, Anne-Marie Lenormand. "Your marriage to a young lieutenant in the Revolutionary Army," said the seer, "has been postponed so long, you wish to know if he will marry you eventually?"

Desiree nodded, miserably.

Mademoiselle Lenormand seemed to go into a deep trance. A little later, she shook her head slightly, as if to clear her mind. Then, she spoke in a sympathetic voice.

"I am afraid," she began, "that I have bad news. The lieutenant will never marry you.

"In fact, he will marry an older woman from some distant country. With her at his side, he will become a great ruler. In fact, he will conquer all Europe!"

Desiree's eyes widened. "You must be joking," she exclaimed. "My fiance is a very ambitious man, but he is not a nobleman. Why, the whole idea is ridiculous!"

Mademoiselle Lenormand only smiled. "I have even more shocking news for you, mademoiselle! You yourself will someday become a queen, and your rule will last long after your suitor has been dethroned and exiled!"

Desiree suddenly leaped to her feet. Her eyes were blazing.

"I understand now—you have been making a fool of me!" she cried, and, flinging some money on the table, she stamped out.

But, back home in Marseilles, where she told her mother about the incident, the predictions were so preposterous that she began to laugh. And before going to bed, she wrote the incredible prophecy into her diary.

After that, she only occasionally thought about the past. At such times, she remembered how her penniless suitor, a second lieutenant in the French Army, had wooed her. But her mother had been against the match from the start. The lieutenant's future was not bright.

But Desiree and the lieutenant had been

deeply in love, and in an effort to better his circumstances so that they could marry, he had gone to Paris. At first, he had written every day. Then, his letters had arrived less and less frequently. Anguished by his failure to communicate, Desiree had gone to Paris, to see what was wrong. Instead, she had paid a visit to Mademoiselle Lenormand.

On her return to Marseilles, it wasn't long after that she forgot the lieutenant when she met and fell in love with a handsome, dashing General, Jean Baptist Bernadotte, whom she subsequently married.

But now Fate took a hand in this strange story. The Army of the Interior needed an efficient commander, and Desiree's former suitor, the lieutenant, was given the post and the rank of General. After a series of military successes, he became the toast of Paris.

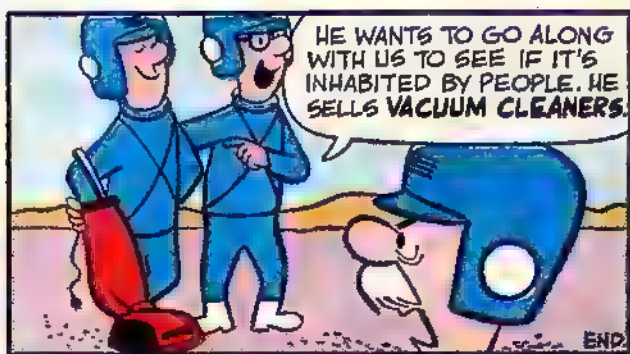
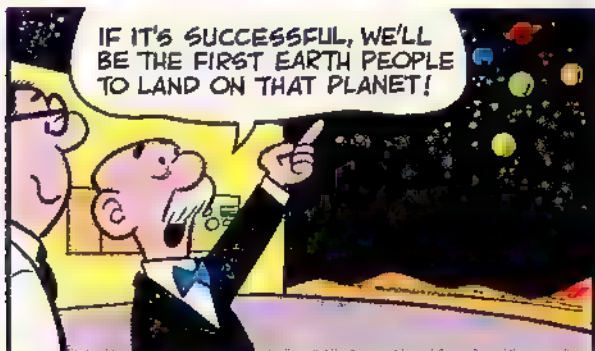
At about this time, he met and fell in love with a beautiful woman named Josephine Beauharnais who had recently come to France from the island of Martinique. She was five years older than Desiree's former fiance.

And it wasn't long before Mademoiselle Lenormand's prediction about the young lieutenant came true in all respects. Napoleon, the former lieutenant, with his older wife, Josephine, at his side, became conqueror of Europe. And, as further predicted, he lost his exalted position, and died in exile.

But what about the seer's rash prediction concerning Desiree's ascension to the throne? Again Fate took a hand.

Desiree's husband, General Bernadotte, received a strange summons from King Charles XIII, of Sweden. Growing old and lacking children of his own, the King offered his crown, on his death, to the General, Desiree's husband. History records that on August 21, 1810, Bernadotte became King and Desiree was crowned Queen Desideria of Sweden. Ever since, Sweden has been ruled by the descendants of the General and Desiree.

Fantastic as it sounded at the time, the incredible predictions of Mademoiselle Lenormand eventually all came true.



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I'm a FUDGE JUDGE!
and I declare ...

**Tootsie Roll
Fudge**

**Tootsie Roll
Fudge**

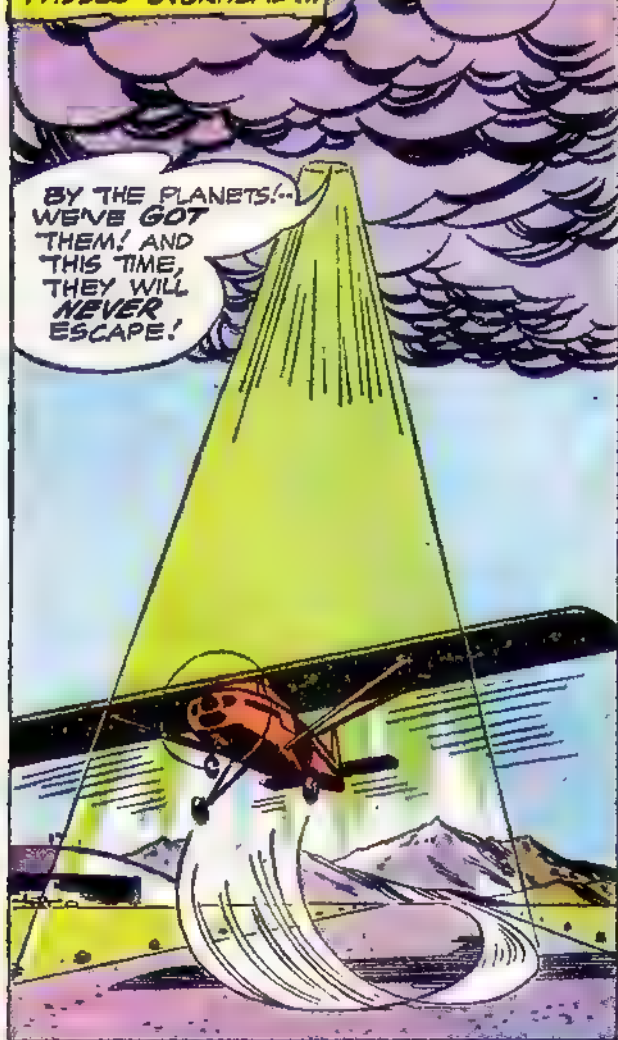
JUDGING STAND

the WINNER!

SMOOTH · CREAMY · DELICIOUS

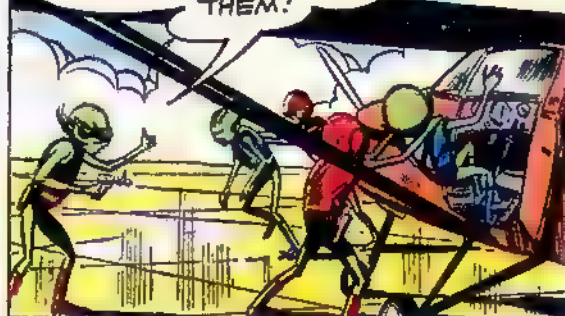
THEN, AS THE SHADOW OF THE CLOUD-MENACE PASSES OVERHEAD...

BY THE PLANETS-- WE'VE GOT THEM! AND THIS TIME, THEY WILL NEVER ESCAPE!

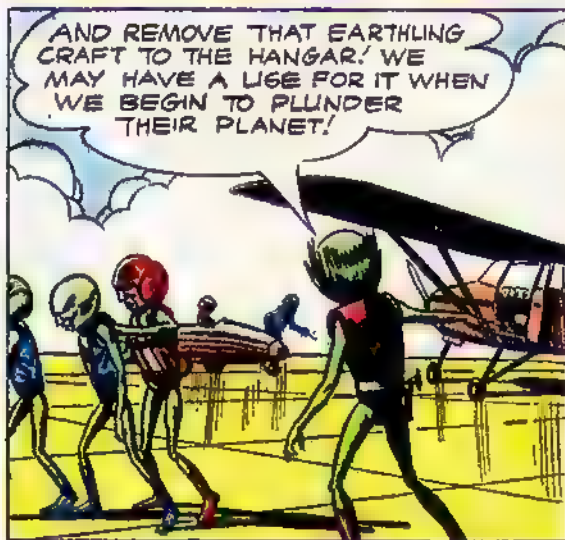


NO SOONER IS THEIR PLANE DEPOSITED THAN THE TWO CAPTIVES ARE PULLED OUT...

YOU ARE FORTUNATE THAT I CAN STILL USE THE VAST KNOWLEDGE YOU POSSESS... OR I WOULD HAVE YOU BOTH DESTROYED! OFF TO THE CONTROL TOWER WITH THEM!



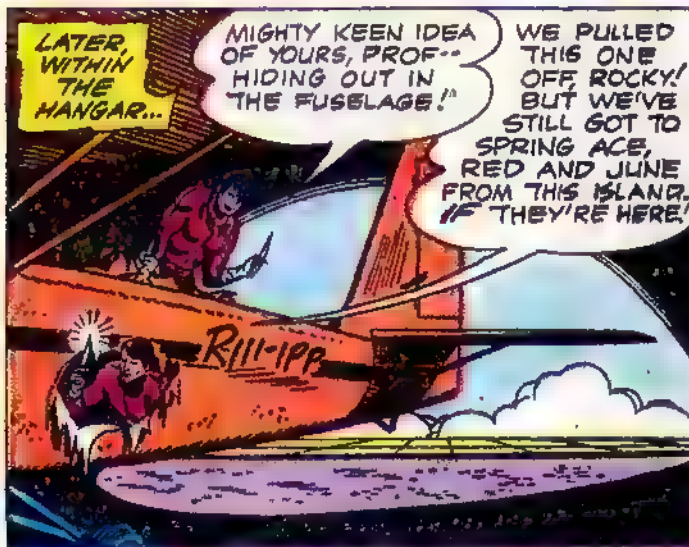
AND REMOVE THAT EARTHLING CRAFT TO THE HANGAR! WE MAY HAVE A USE FOR IT WHEN WE BEGIN TO PLUNDER THEIR PLANET!



LATER, WITHIN THE HANGAR...

MIGHTY KEEN IDEA OF YOURS, PROF-- HIDING OUT IN THE FUSELAGE!

WE PULLED THIS ONE OFF ROCKY! BUT WE'VE STILL GOT TO SPRING ACE, RED AND JUNE FROM THIS ISLAND. IF THEY'RE HERE!



THIS LAYOUT DR. KUE DREW FOR US ISN'T THE EASIEST THING TO FIGURE OUT, PROF! HOW YOU DOING...?

I THINK I CAN GET ORIENTED, ROCKY! DR. KUE ANTICIPATED ZOG WOULD HAVE THE PLANE STORED HERE! NOW... WE'RE TO SLIP OUT A SIDE DOOR...



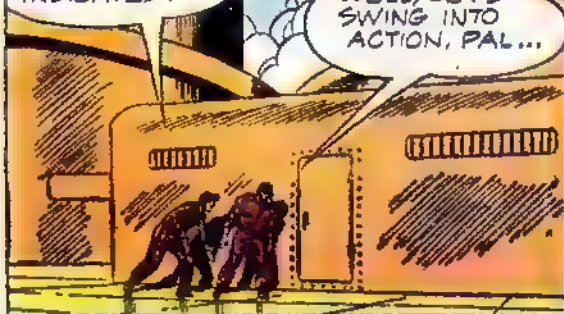
WARILY, THE TWO CHALLENGERS EDGE ACROSS THE BIZARRE SKY ISLAND UNTIL...

PROF AND ROCKY EASE THE DOOR OPEN... SILENTLY SLIP INSIDE...

THIS IS IT, PROF-- HERE'S THE PRISON... AND THERE'S THE EMERGENCY ESCAPE DOOR DR. KUE INDICATED!

HE FIGURED WE CAN GET A GOOD JUMP ON THE GUARDS BY ENTERING THIS WAY! WELL, LET'S SWING INTO ACTION, PAL...

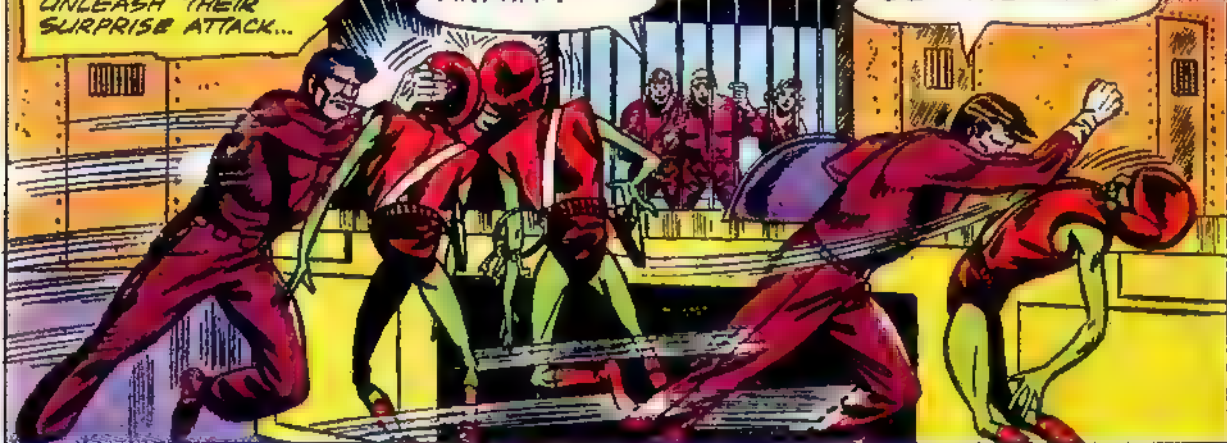
PROF AND ROCKY! SOMEHOW THEY GOT ABOARD THIS THING! KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED!..



SUDDENLY, THE DETERMINED CHALLENGERS UNLEASH THEIR SURPRISE ATTACK...

THAT'S CLEANING UP HOUSE! HOW'D YOU GUYS GET UP HERE, ANYWAY?

TELL YOU LATER, RED... AFTER WE'VE SPRUNG YOU FROM HERE! ROCKY-- GET THE KEYS!



AND AFTER A HAPPY BUT BRIEF REUNION...

IT'S AN AMAZING STORY... THOSE TWO FRIENDLY ALIENS... YOUR TEAMING UP WITH THEM TO SPRING US, PROF! NOW WHAT'S THE PLAN?

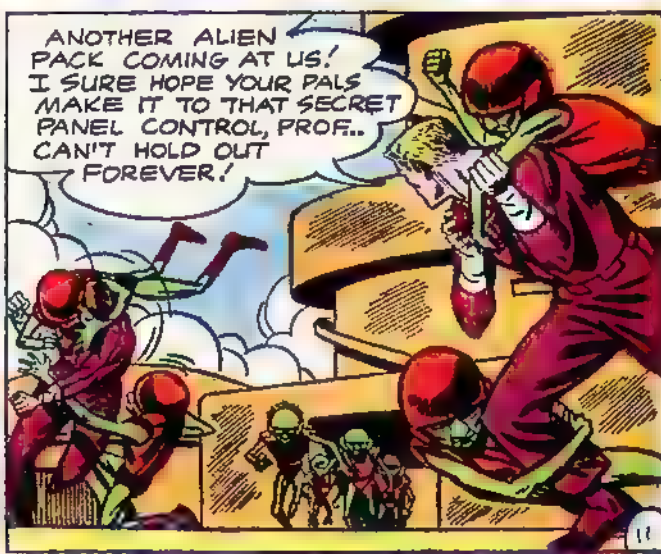
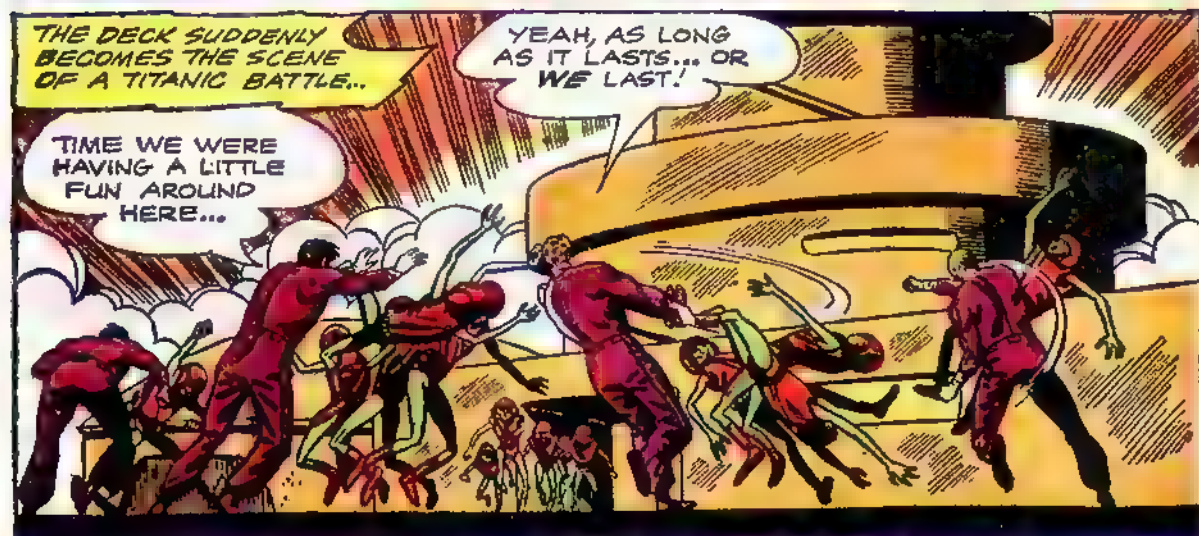
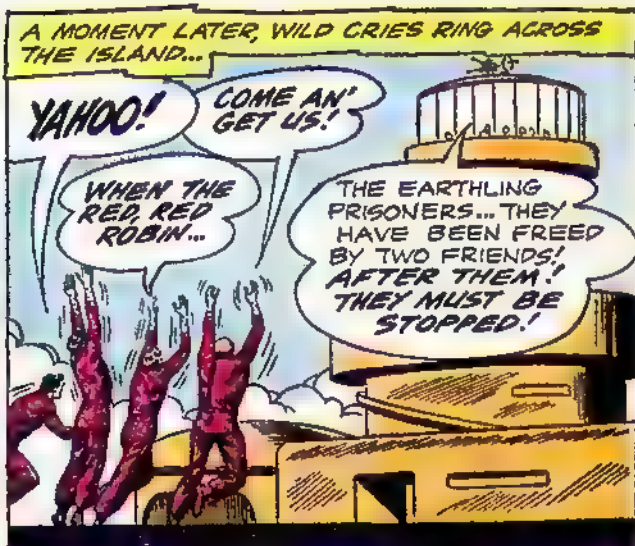
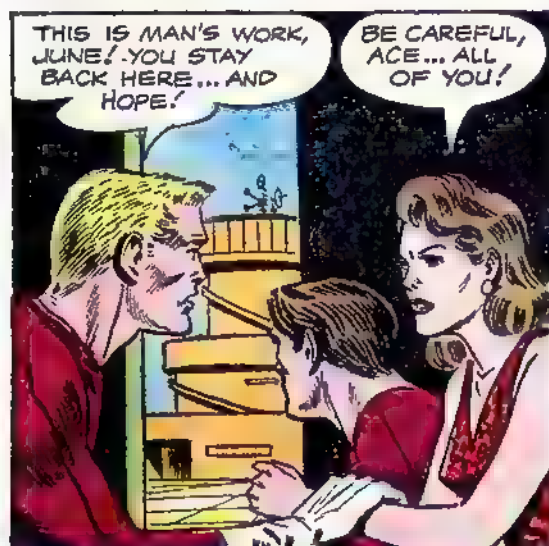
WE'VE GOT A TIME SCHEDULE TO MEET, ACE... I'LL BRIEF YOU ON THE WAY! C'MON...

AFTER ADVANCING TO A TEMPORARY REFUGE IN A SMALL MAINTENANCE SHED...

SO WE'RE TO RAISE A BIG ENOUGH FUSS TO DISTRACT THE GUARDS WATCHING OVER OUR ALIEN FRIENDS IN THE CONTROL TOWER! RIGHT?

RIGHT! THEN DR. KUE AND GREEG WILL TRY TO SLIP OFF AND REACH THE SECRET CONTROL PANEL SOMEWHERE IN THIS SHIP!





THE CHALLENGER TEAM BATTLES FURIOUSLY... BUT THE OVERWHELMING ODDS BEGIN TO HAVE THEIR EFFECT...

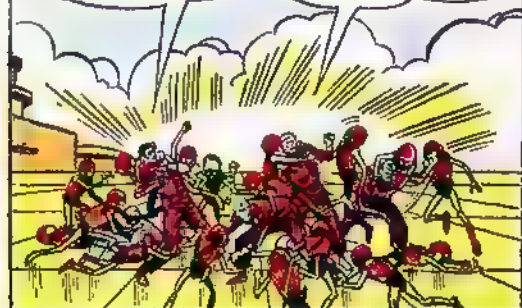
I'VE... SHOT MY STRENGTH! CAN HARDLY KEEP MY FEET!

LOOKS LIKE WE'LL ALL HAVE TO THROW IN THE SPONGE SOON...

SUDDENLY...

HEY! I'M SO TIRED, I FEEL LIKE I'M FLOATING!

I--I THINK WE ALL ARE, ROCKY...



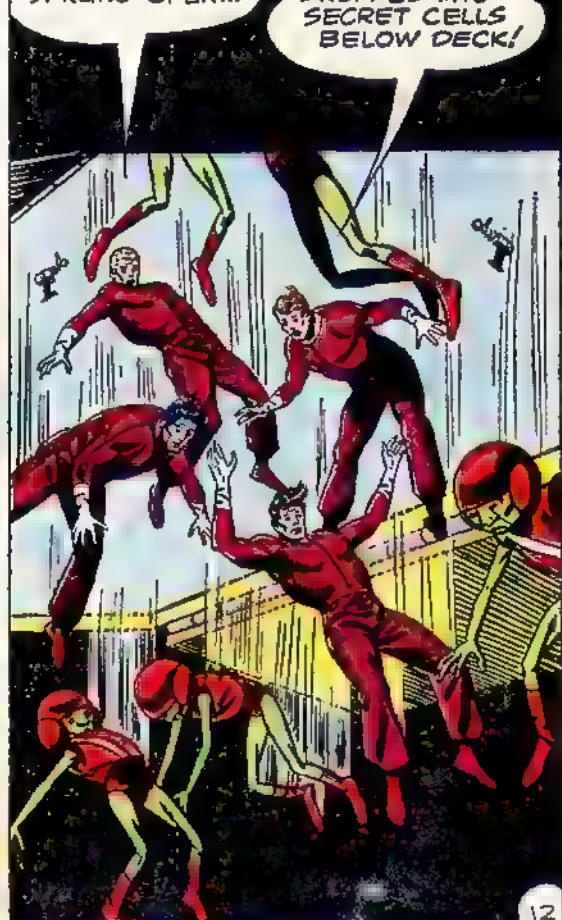
HEY! MAYBE SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG WITH THIS FLYING CONTRAPTION! WE'RE ALL FOOT-LOOSE AND FANCY FREE...

THE ALIEN SCIENTISTS... THEY MUST HAVE REACHED THE SECRET CONTROL PANEL! THIS IS THEIR COUNTER-THIEF DEVICE!

ABRUPTLY...

WE'RE DROPPING... AND LOOK--THE PLATES IN THE DECK HAVE SPRUNG OPEN...

NOW I GET IT! THE RIDE UP IS TO SURPRISE AND DISARM ANY WOULD-BE THIEVES... THEN THEY'RE DROPPED INTO SECRET CELLS BELOW DECK!



THEN, AS THE DECK PLATES ABRUPTLY SLAM SHUT...

WOW! I DIDN'T KNOW WE'D BE THROWN INTO YOUR ALIEN FRIENDS' PLANS TO CAPTURE THESE CRIMINALS, PROF!

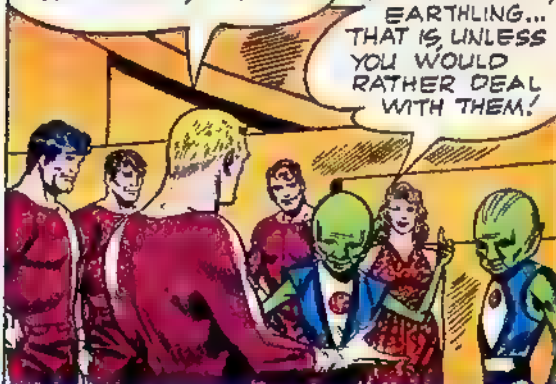
THEY COULD HARDLY HAVE SEPARATED US FROM THE OTHERS, RED! BUT YOU MUST ADMIT... IT'S A NEAT WAY TO MAKE A MASS CAPTURE!



SOON AFTER, WHEN DR. KUE HAS RELEASED THE CHALLENGERS...

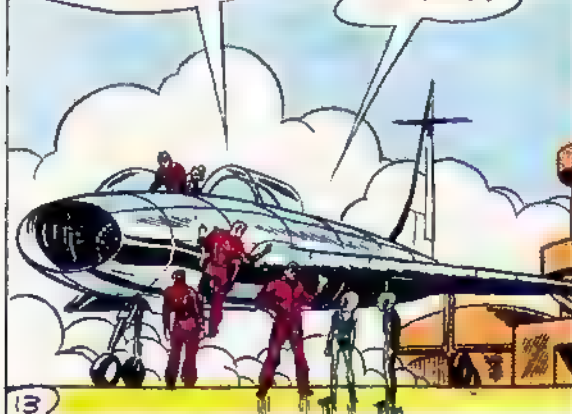
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS... NOW THAT ZOG AND HIS GANG ARE CAPTURED, DR. KUE?

TRANSPORT THEM TO MY PLANET FOR PUNISHMENT, EARTHLING... THAT IS, UNLESS YOU WOULD RATHER DEAL WITH THEM!



THANKS...BUT NO! THEY'RE YOUR CRIMINALS... YOU KEEP THEM!

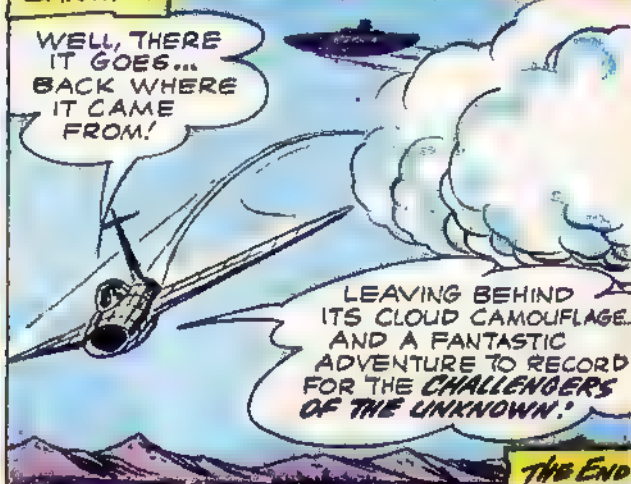
WE'LL TAKE OFF NOW! A GOOD SPACE VOYAGE TO YOU, DR. KUE... GREEG!



AND AS THE CHALLENGERS JET TOWARDS EARTH...

WELL, THERE IT GOES... BACK WHERE IT CAME FROM!

LEAVING BEHIND ITS CLOUD CAMOUFLAGE AND A FANTASTIC ADVENTURE TO RECORD FOR THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN!



THE END

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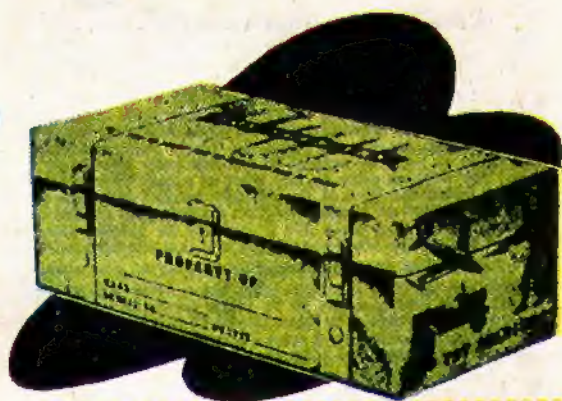


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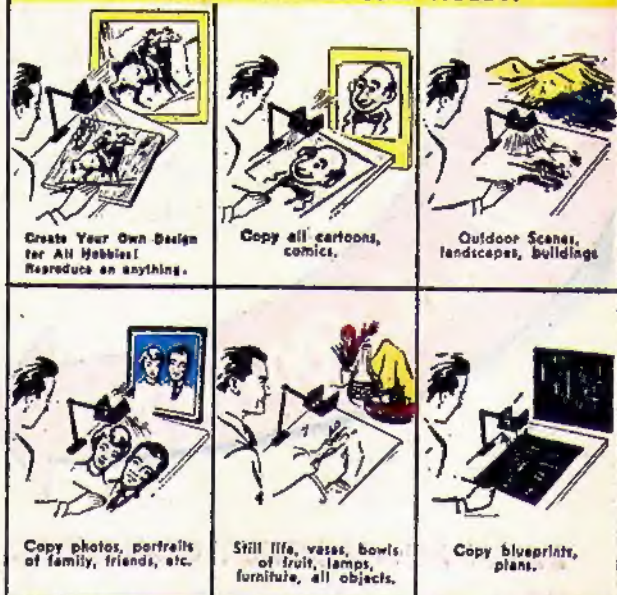
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SKINNY OR FAT, 15, 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS OF AGE I'LL BUILD YOU INTO A NEW ATHLETIC MIGHTY-MUSCLED ALL-MALE HE-MAN

in 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, as I have done to MILLIONS in 35 YEARS."

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This now MAGNIFICENT, MODERN HERCULES, 26 year old teacher, William Butler,



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"I GAINED 60 LBS. OF SHAPELY MIGHTY MUSCLES."

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says JOHN SILLS.

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"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY at the right was ME a few short weeks ago."

YOU can add 7 inches to your CHEST 3½ inches to each ARM and the rest in proportion just as I did.



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"Both gained pounds of powerful muscles. Advise all you fathers and sons to send for the Jowett courses without foolish delay."

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JOWETT streamlined my body, made me a new man my 47" chest my 32" waist 15" difference

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YOU can soon be a HERO of MEN like Butler is and an IDOL of WOMEN in a few weeks!

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NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are now. If you're in your teens, twenties, thirties or forties, I'll show you in just 10 thrilling minutes in your home, how you can make yourself over by the easy, quick method I turned myself from wreck to WORLD CHAMPION and turned MILLIONS of others into all-male he-men!

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLES to your ARMS, deepen your CHEST, broaden your BACK and SHOULDERS. FROM HEAD to HEELS you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED ENDURANCE. You'll become a SUCCESSFUL HE-MAN in LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERYTHING — athletics, business, studies.

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